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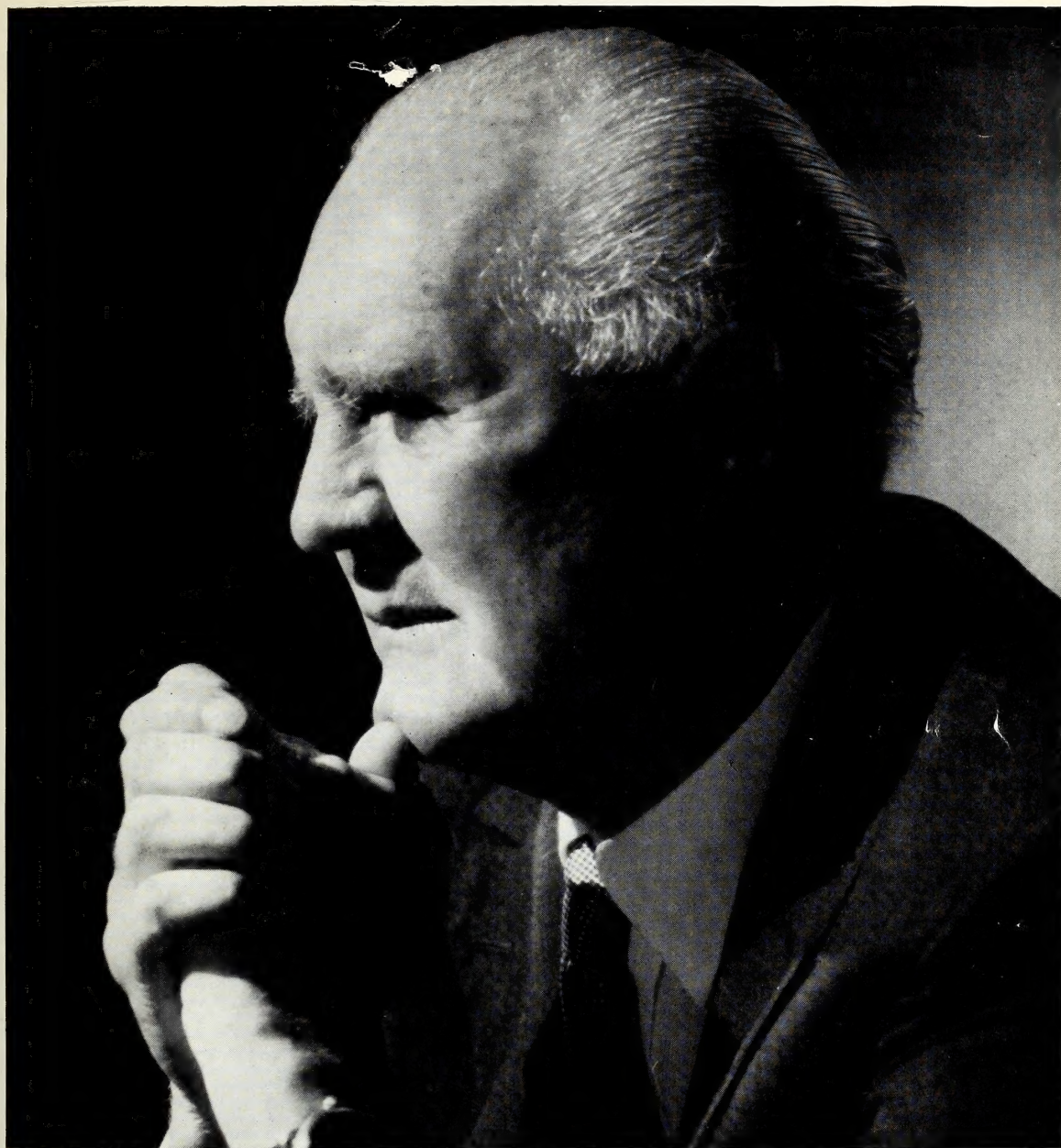


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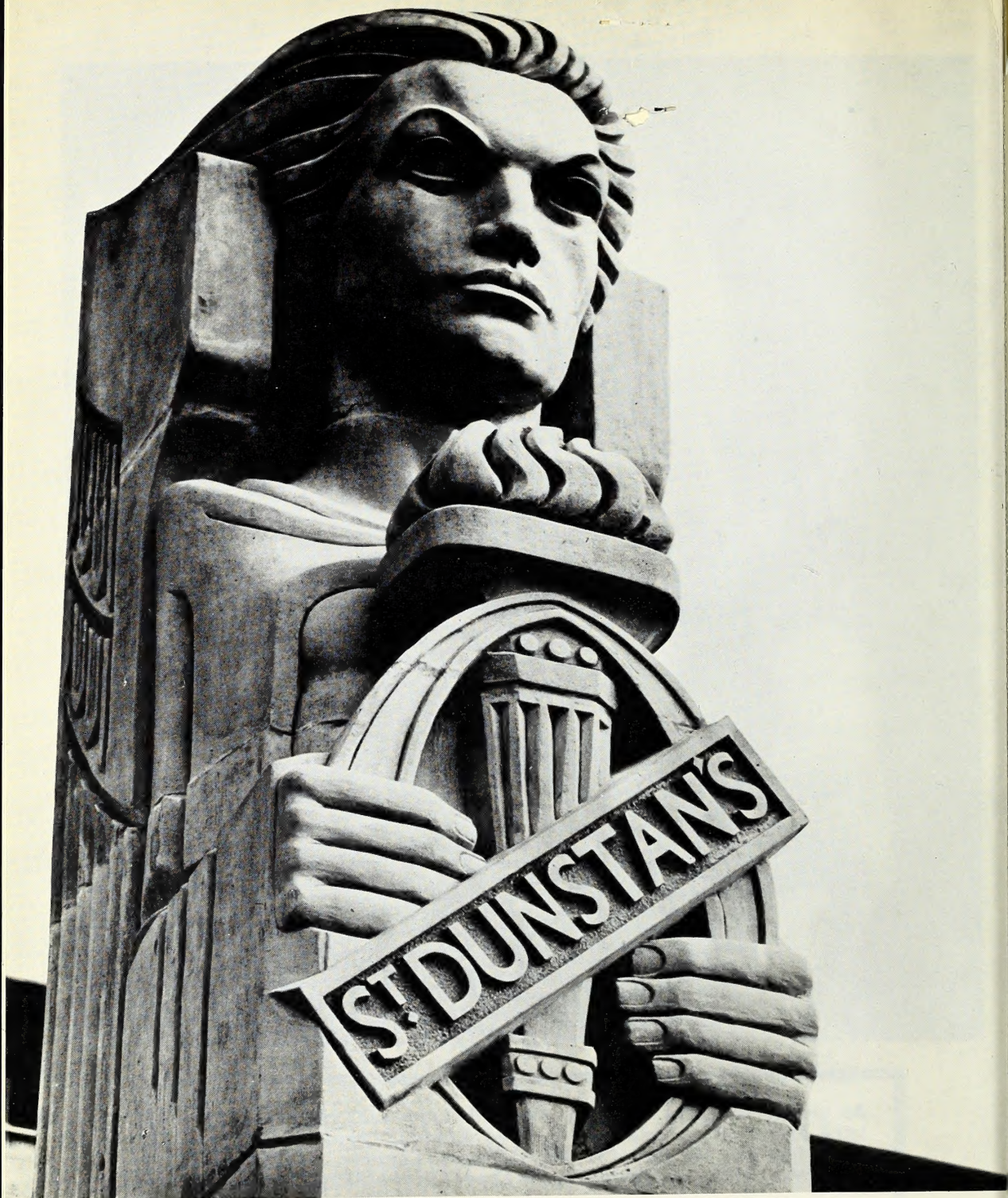
As we go to press we have the sad news that our Chairman, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, C.H., died suddenly and peacefully in King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, London, on Thursday, December 19th. Our tribute will appear in the February Review.

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**St Dunstons Review January**





*As "Winged Victory" at Ian Fraser House looks out into 1975 and the re-opening of the building, we wish all St. Dunstaners a Happy New Year.*



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 659

JANUARY 1975

5p MONTHLY

## Fared well, but not good-bye

"All good things must come to an end," seems to have been the keynote of the very successful final Grocers' Dinner for St. Dunstaners at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, on Wednesday, 4th December. About 330 people attended this function.

Presiding at dinner was Mr. K. S. C. Phillips, Chairman of the Sussex Grocers' Association Entertainment Fund, accompanied by Mrs. Phillips. The Fund's energetic secretary, Mrs. M. G. Lillie was, as usual, here, there and everywhere and a strong supporting cast of Grocers was headed by Mr. J. Watson, President of the National Food and Drink Federation who, with Mrs. Watson, came all the way from Carlisle, and other leading Grocers, most of them well-known to St. Dunstaners, Mr. J. Witts, President of the Sussex Grocers' Association, Messrs. Everson, Foulser, Lutwyche, McEniry, Morris, Reeves-Smith, Rutherford, Shaw, Sturt, P. Tongue, W. Tongue and Wilsher, with their wives, also some special guests. The Rev. Harry Warne, Chaplain to the Sussex Grocers' Association, said Grace before the dinner.

### Guests Attending

The Council of St. Dunstan's was represented by Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris accompanied by Lady Morris and staff from St. Dunstan's included Commandant Fawcett, Mrs. Blackford and Miss Hallett from Brighton and Commander Buckley from London. Dr. O'Hara, the Rev. Popham Hosford, our St. Dunstan's padre, and Mrs. Dacre were also there—Percy Warden's Band played at dinner and for dancing afterwards as they have done during the past 27 years.

After the excellent Christmas Dinner had been consumed and with Mr. Peter Tongue acting as Toast-master, Mr. Phillips rose to speak. Proposing a toast to St. Dunstan's and expressing regret that Lord Fraser could not attend the

dinner Mr. Phillips said, "You will know that for a great many years the Grocers have given a dinner and dance and a Summer outing for the St. Dunstaners. This has cost them a tremendous lot of money and a tremendous lot of time because it's a very difficult situation to work out each year. Also, no doubt you know, that in 1918 the Federation of Grocers' Associations of the United Kingdom, gave West House to St. Dunstan's. It is ideally situated in Brighton just off Marine Parade and, as you know, Dr. Brighton, with his wonderful beaches and glorious sunshine gives health and cheerfulness to these blinded men. It is to the generosity of the Grocers' Associations of the United Kingdom that St. Dunstan's owes this invaluable contribution to work for blinded men. I will say something about the wives, friends and lady escorts—what a marvellous job they do."

### Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris

Responding to the toast Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris said:—

"When I look at this room from this position here I feel exactly like the substitute who is called out in the middle of a football game to take the place of the world famous player who is unfortunately unable to be in this match, and you, if I may say so, Ladies and Gentlemen, look rather like the customers who are looking down at the substitute and wondering what sort of a show he is going to put up, and rather regretting that the man you wanted to see is not here. All I can say is that Lord Fraser, as you know, is unfortunately not well and he has asked me to pass a message to you. He regrets he is unable to be here but he has to enter hospital in the next few days for a check-up which he hopes will not be serious; but it is preventing him from attending to-night's dinner and also the annual





*Mr. K. S. C. Phillips and Mrs. M. G. Lillie.*

Founder's Service in honour of Sir Arthur Pearson next Sunday. But Lord Fraser asked me to send to you all, and particularly St. Dunstaners, his and Lady Fraser's love and best wishes and I am quite sure that I can go back and tell him that your feelings of affection are with them in these next few days which I am sure will be of very great value to them both.

"I know very well that Lord Fraser is disappointed in not being here to-night because he particularly wanted to attend this last occasion and on behalf of all St. Dunstaners, to thank the Grocers' Federation for all that they have done over the years.

#### **Debt to Grocers**

"Starting way back from West House, now Pearson House, and continuing through the years, the contributions both to Pearson House and to Ovingdean, St. Dunstaners owe a very great deal to the Grocers' Federation and I am delighted to see that the National President of the Federation, Mr. Watson, is here to-night and I almost said the top brass of the Grocers but I understand that the chain is much more valuable.

"The St. Dunstaners here to-night will, of course, have a much more personal feeling for the local Grocers; the Sussex Association and in particular, I think,

their two friends, Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Lillie. The Sussex Association, for very many years now, has provided these annual dinners, annual Summer outings for St. Dunstaners and visited the local Homes at Christmas-time to bring them presents and to bring them cheer and these occasions are very sincerely remembered by all St. Dunstaners."

Paying an eloquent tribute to the work of the late Sir Arthur Pearson, Bart., Founder of St. Dunstan's, Sir Douglas told the Grocers that they were a small but valuable component in the vast financial organisation which Sir Arthur established.

#### **Over 6,000 St. Dunstaners**

"Out of these small beginnings St. Dunstan's has dealt with well over 6,000 blinded men and women mostly or mainly of two World Wars and unfortunately more recently from troubles such as are occurring in Ulster, and those of you who had the opportunity of seeing that television film on Captain Hazan, a few months ago will have some insight into the vast field of skill with which St. Dunstan's deals with the war blinded. And, if I may say, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Grocers' Association, your contribution over the years is I think best shown in the St. Dunstaners who are here to-night. This you might say is the proof of your pudding. These are the people you have for many years helped and I think you will agree with me that, on the whole, they are a pretty fine bunch. So I would like to add to the words of Lord Fraser in thanking you for all you have done, acting as a Member of the Council to give you the Council's thanks and the regret that all good things must come to an end. For more than 50 years you have helped us and we are profoundly grateful".

As a small memento of the appreciation of St. Dunstan's Council Sir Douglas then presented framed photographs of Pearson House to Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Lillie.

It was then the turn of Mrs. Lillie to speak and she said. "As all you St. Dunstaners know, I don't usually say anything of any substance but I must tell you that in my cracker I had a motto which said, 'If you are a self-starter your boss doesn't need to be a crank'. Well,



I would like to think, yes, I am a self-starter and I would also tell you that Mr. Phillips is not my boss so he doesn't necessarily need to be a crank. And then if you'll excuse me Sir Douglas, I got up early this morning and because I knew you were coming I didn't bake you a cake, I baked you a loaf of bread . . . it's obviously as heavy as lead and you won't be able to cut it. Well, now there's just one other thing. When I've got nothing to do, which is not very often, I'm given to making rhymes and the other day I thought of something so I would just like to read it out to you.

"When often at the kitchen sink my thoughts  
flow very fast  
Of all my yester years way back in the past.  
But most of all I think of you, St. Dunstaners,  
your wives,  
And all the many varied things you have done  
with your lives.

You're always very happy, even when you're  
down,  
And often have a cheery smile when meeting  
me in town,  
You never fail to ask just how I am getting on,  
Enquire about my husband, my daughter and  
my son.

Christmas parties may be ending and Summer  
outings too,  
But personally this is not the end, for I'll always  
think of you.  
Hoping I may be privileged to call you still  
my friends,  
And you in turn reciprocate until our journey  
ends."

Mr. Phillips then thanked Sir Douglas very much for the photographs presented to himself and Mrs. Lillie of Pearson House which he described as being as good as a five star hotel.

### President's Speech

Mr. John Watson, President of the National Food and Drink Federation said, "It is a privilege for my wife and myself to attend this function of yours which unfortunately has to be the last, as we have heard this evening. My year of office seems to be one of firsts and lasts. In June this year I was installed as the last President of the National Grocers' Federation, and now I am the first President of the National Food and Drink Federation. This evening I am attending your function, which has to be the last where the Grocers

are concerned. It would be remiss of me if I did not say what a pleasure it has been for my Federation to be connected with St. Dunstan's and we can never thank the local Association too much for the work they have done on our behalf for St. Dunstaners."

### Thanks to Mrs. Lillie

Mr. Phillips then spoke again, "I would like to say one other word to you," he said. "I did not say anything about Mrs. Lillie but I should like in front of you, to thank Mrs. Lillie very very much for all she has done in the past and there have been a very great lot of jobs she has had to do and I would like to congratulate her on them. I would like you to give her a real good hand. Now, I never like anybody to beat me. Mrs. Lillie has made up a magnificent rhyme. Well, the funny thing is I too have made up a rhyme and I'd like to read it to you. It may be a little bit religious, it will go fairly well with the reverend gentlemen, I think, and it goes:—

Although horizons we may scan,  
The future is not ours to plan.  
The most that we can do is pray  
That God will light the unknown way.  
So trust in Him and have no doubt  
That He will work his purpose out.  
Your part is this, to work, to pray,  
And do your best from day to day."

### Presentation

On the dance floor after dinner our St. Dunstan W. T. (Ginger) Scott made a special presentation to Mrs. Lillie on behalf of all those St. Dunstaners who had subscribed to the appeal made by himself, Mrs. Gover and John Whitcombe through the medium of *St. Dunstan's Review*. The gifts were a basket made by a St. Dunstaner filled with daffodils, narcissi and polyanthus, the book "America" by Alistair Cooke (especially asked for by Mrs. Lillie) and a cheque for £75.00.

The dancing and much enjoyed conversation with friends continued until close on midnight when the party broke up. To our friends the Grocers we say, "You have done us proud over the past 56 years and we will always remember this most gratefully. We have fared well, but surely it is a case of auf Wiedersehen and not good-bye."



## **VICE-CHAIRMAN IN SOUTH AFRICA**

During our Autumn and their Spring, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's, and his wife made a business trip to the Republic of South Africa, in the course of which they visited St. Dunstan's (South Africa) and met a few St. Dunstaners.

On 15th October Mr. Garnett-Orme attended a Board meeting of St. Dunstan's (South Africa) chaired by Mrs. Opperman. Our St. Dunstaner The Rev. Michael Norman is a member of the Board. Subsequently Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme were entertained to lunch and were thus able to meet each member of the Board and Officers of the Association with their wives.

Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme entertained Jim and Laura Ellis, their daughter and son-in-law in Johannesburg on 17th October and Professor Ken McIntyre and his wife Billy in Durban a day or so later.

Journeys by train and car brought home to Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme what a huge and varied land South Africa is. The trade passing through its ports is enormous. Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme were most grateful for the splendid hospitality extended to them everywhere.

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### **Telephone Calls to Headquarters and to Visiting Staff**

St. Dunstaners are advised, in view of the substantial increases in charges, to keep telephone calls to staff as brief as possible. It should be noted that the transfer of the call charges to St. Dunstan's account is unacceptable except in the case of time-expired essential calls from public call boxes, or unless authorised in advance by a member of the staff for a special reason.

I feel sure that St. Dunstaners will wish to co-operate fully in this matter and so save valuable staff time and keep telephone bills to a minimum.

*C. D. WILLS.*

### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 1974**

Mr. Wills and all the staff, both at Headquarters and the Brighton Homes, thank St. Dunstaners for the many Christmas Cards which they have received during this festive season, and warmly reciprocate the greetings and good wishes that these have conveyed.

## **FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE 1974**

The Founder's Day Service was held in St. George's Church, Kemp Town on Sunday, 8th December. The Rev. W. Popham Hosford, O.B.E., M.A., R.D., conducted the Service. Mr. Nigel Pearson, a member of the Council and a grandson of Sir Arthur, read the lesson. In an eloquent address Mr. W. T. (Ginger) Scott paid a warm tribute to Sir Arthur Pearson and to the work of St. Dunstan's over the past 59 years. Sir Neville Pearson's daughter, Mrs. Hardy attended the Service with her daughter Justine.

This year the Chapel was decorated with various shades of yellow chrysanthemums mixed with white ones against a background of green rhododendron leaves.

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### **Visit to Hampstead**

On the morning of Monday, 9th December, Mr. C. D. Wills, accompanied by Paul Nuyens and George Douglas Warden, both 1st World War and Thomas Gaygan, 2nd World War, made their way to the Hampstead Cemetery to lay a wreath of poppies on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

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### **Congratulations**

Jock Inness of Dewsbury was recently presented with a 44 piece Canteen of Cutlery after 25 years' service with the National Health Service at Staincliffe General Hospital, Dewsbury.

Robert Holmes of Templepatrick, Co. Antrim, completed 25 years' service last November with Messrs. Anderson and Macauley Ltd., Belfast, and was presented with a watch and badge.

Bill Orange of Beeston, Leeds, was one of the first people to join the Remploi depot in Leeds and has recently completed 25 years' service with the firm. He was presented with a clock.

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### **EXAMINATION SUCCESS**

Congratulations to Mrs. Teresa Sanderson, daughter of Henry Pownall of Old Coudsdon, Surrey, who has passed her final State Registered Nurse examination at Guy's Hospital.





*Mainly for*

*Women*



### Going Metric

Life, as many of us used to know it, seems to be vanishing fast and now another change is taking place. The metric change is happening now. From February 1975 household and dress fabrics will be sold by the metre and centimetre for length. Retailers will cut to the nearest 10 centimetres (approximately 4 inches).

#### Examples

90 cm instead of 35/36 in.  
115 cm instead of 44/45 in.  
120 cm instead of 48 in.  
140 cm instead of 54 in.  
150 cm instead of 60 in.

### Dressmaking

Paper patterns for home dressmaking will show measurements in both metric and inches. Dress sizes for example 12, 14, 16, will stay. Books on home dressmaking now give dimensions in both metric and inches. Get yourself a metric tape measure as soon as possible as it is easier and more reliable than converting.

When shopping you will find garments marked up in both centimetres and inches for men and women. Children's clothes are slightly different. For infants up to 12 months the clothes are determined by the weight of the child. Boys from 12 months to 5 years the size is based on height in 6 cm steps from 80 cm to 110 cm. and often the approximate age is given. From

5-15 years the boy's garments are given in inches and centimetres plus the usual size codes.

Girls sizes for 12 months to 14 years are based on height in 6 cm steps from 80 cm to 164 cm and approximate age is often given on the garment.

At present there is no change in shoe sizes but a simple international system called "Mondopoint" is being developed.

From January 1975 most types of stockings which have been in inches will now be marked in centimetres and inches.

Hats will also be marked in both centimetres and inches and there is no change in gloves.

### In the kitchen

We are now to go metric in the kitchen and this need not mean all measuring jugs, kitchen scales or favourite recipes have to be thrown away – all can still be used. All kitchen measuring equipment can now be bought marked in both systems and when buying new it would be sensible to get one of these.

Most metric recipes work on a weight unit of 25 grams which is slightly smaller than an ounce and a liquid unit of half a litre (500 ml) which is slightly less than a pint. The proportion of 25 g solid to 500 ml liquid is the same as the proportion of 1 oz to 1 pint though the total amount in metric is about 10% less. Here are a few useful guide lines :-



## Weight

A Kilogram is a little less than  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lbs.  
25g replaces 1 oz.

## Liquids

A litre is a little more than  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pints.  
125 ml replaces  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint.

## Length.

A metre is a little more than 3 feet 3 inches.  
 $2\frac{1}{2}$  cm are approximately one inch.

## METRIC MENUS

### Currant Buns

100 g butter or margarine.  
100 g castor sugar.  
150 g self-raising flour.  
pinch of salt.  
2 eggs.  
25 ml milk.  
100 g currants.

Cream the fat and sugar together until light and fluffy.

Sieve or mix the flour and salt.

Add the eggs, one at a time, to the creamed mixture with a spoonful of flour, stir then beat.

Beat the milk with a little more flour.

Stir in the currants with the remaining flour.

Divide the mixture evenly between about 20 baking cases, smooth level.

Bake for 15-20 minutes at  $190^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $375^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) gas mark 5.

### Yorkshire Pudding

100 g plain flour.  
pinch of salt.  
250 ml milk.  
1 egg.

25 g dripping.

Place the fat in a shallow tin, 20x15 cm (approx.) put into the oven to heat at  $220^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $425^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) gas mark 7.

Sieve or mix flour and salt.

Make a hollow in the centre, add egg and a little milk.

Stir, drawing flour in from the sides, keeping the mixture smooth and gradually adding half the milk.

Beat well, then stir in remaining milk.

When the fat is smoking hot, pour in batter and cook 35-40 minutes.

## TANDEMONIUM

by Leonard Parry

Leonard Parry wrote this poem after hearing of fellow St. Dunstaner, Mike Tetley's tandem expedition to East Africa, when with a sighted rider in front, he rode from Nairobi to Malindi, some 400 miles through wild country. Mike Tetley's own account, in more serious vein appears on page 9.

Fire-flies are flashing in the jungle's steamy heat,  
Tandem a dashing with the thrust of Tetley's feet.  
Jungle Ju Ju says, we'll cast a spell  
On these intruding white men with their jingling bell.

Take not that path, his daughters cried, the storm  
is overhead.  
The lion and the leopard are hunting for their  
bread.

The black man's prowling with his nasty assegai,  
Oh dearest, darling Poppa we don't want you to  
die.

But all the Tetley blood welled up within his soul  
And with a kindred spirit he set out for his goal.  
We know not what his goal was except there  
were two wheels  
Joined up with bits of tubing and two good pairs  
of heels.

The evening shades were falling as they took off  
for their run.

Their rations were some lime juice and a currant  
bun.

The forest fauna heard their tinkling bell  
And sniffing with their noses were attracted by  
their smell.

As darkness gathered in the deeper parts,  
They heard a thumping and thought it was their  
hearts.

A roguish elephant clumping close behind  
With outstretched trunk looked far from kind.

They thrust their buns right at his trunk  
And by God's Grace the fellow did a bunk.  
But woe betide they heard a rhino grunt,  
With one pointed horn asticking out in front.

Oh pedal, pedal, pedal, oh pedal for your life,  
Oh pedal Mr. Tetley, think of your kids and wife.  
They pedalled hard with every nerve astrain  
And prayed their strength would not break the  
chain.

They rode into Malindi to the barking of a dog,  
All the population were standing there agog.  
Now they are united back with their kith and kin,  
They've had a more adventurous ride than that of  
John Gilpin.





*Mike Tetley (left) with his sighted "pilot", Dennis Bray, who helped him with training in England.*

# Tandem ride across Kenya

by Mike Tetley

August found me pedalling 430 miles across Kenya from Nairobi to Mombasa and on to Malindi, the journey taking four days through wild country teeming with big game. I flew the tandem to Nairobi and undertook to do the ride from there firstly to enjoy the call of the wild, which to someone not born in Africa may be difficult to understand; and secondly to show the local Kenyans that blind people could get about and enjoy themselves and by this example, to draw attention to the fact that blind people can do a useful job of work.

The students at the Salvation Army School for the Blind at Thika, near Nairobi, told me last year that they had difficulty in obtaining employment and I hoped that my ride would help them. I gave the tandem to this school when I finished the ride.

We attracted a great deal of attention as no African had seen a tandem before. We nearly brought Nairobi Airport to a halt as we rode away from it. Wherever I went on the tandem there were shouts from Africans in their native language:

"Look, look, have you ever seen a bike like that?" as they voiced their disbelief and incredulity at seeing a bicycle made for two with a middle-aged European and a Goan Indian with a big black beard pedalling through the bush. I got stopped by police cars twice just so that policemen could come and look at the tandem and they wanted to know if I was frightened of the big game down the Mombasa road.

The first day we did 100 miles in the morning. At lunchtime, as I hadn't had much sleep on the aeroplane the night before, I decided that this was a good time to stop for that day. The second day we hit a tremendous head wind and we only did 80 miles the whole day—only 32 in the last five hours. Dusk found us at quarter past six at a place called Tsavo. Tsavo is famous for man-eating lions. They ate up over 190 people and stopped the construction of the railway for two or three years at the turn of the century and they got so clever that, going up some of the steeper gradients where the train obviously went very slowly, the lions



could run faster than the train and they would jump through the open windows, grab you out of your bed and gobble you up.

We got to Tsavo at dusk. There is a lodge being built there called the Man-eaters' Lodge but they've run out of money and we couldn't find a way in. I had expected a few more signs of civilisation but there was nothing else.

We found three Africans and asked them was there a small shop at Tsavo Station and where was it. One African pointed to a path and he said: "If you go down there you will fairly soon come to it". So I said, "Come on, show us the way". Neither love nor money would induce him more than 10 feet away from his front door.

### **An Elephant—30 yards**

We set off down the path. We had only gone 30 yards and already an elephant had cut off our line of retreat, it was between us and the main road. So we pedalled on. The path got so rough we had to get off the tandem and we man-handled it down a steep ravine and up the other side. At the top I heard something I recognised as a rhino . . . 20 feet away. I was wondering what on earth to do when I heard a cockerel crow on my right and I knew that human habitation must be close at hand. So we bashed in through the bush and I think the native Station Master was quite surprised to see a tandem coming in through the bush on to his Station. He was very kind to us, he gave us a cup of coffee and we slept on the concrete floor of a store room with a high wind howling about us.

On the following morning we got closer to an elephant than I really wanted to. Soon after dawn we came across an elephant in the middle of the road. It was stripping trees by the roadside so there was no alternative but to stop and wait for it to move off. We waited and we waited and the old elephant wouldn't move. Then a Peugeot car came up, passed us and stood honking at the elephant. The elephant stood its ground, looked straight at the car, apparently, and when it started walking slowly towards it, the car shot into reverse! Eventually, the elephant moved off and we pedalled on. Just as we

passed the spot where we had seen him, he came back on to the road behind us. Suddenly I heard my sighted "pilot" shout "For the love of Pete, pedal like hell". We went on pedalling and pedalling and I said "Have we passed it yet?" "Shut up and pedal". We rode right between two elephants and passed within about five feet of one on the side of the road. This elephant looked at the tandem. My friend looked back at the elephant and we went on pedalling. We pedalled so jolly hard to get past this elephant that we pulled the back wheel to one side and shed one of the nuts on the axle.

### **430 Miles in four days**

When we got down to Malindi we had done 430 miles in four days. Considering the rough roads, our 40 year old tandem did very well. We had no punctures but light bulbs just would not stand up to the vibration of the roads for more than a day. There is one snag about a tandem on rough roads. Due to its long wheel base, you hit the pedals or even the bottom bracket on bumps and ruts. This happened very often and it is something which never happens on roads in the U.K.

### **Sets of Values**

At Malindi I joined my wife and children who had come by aeroplane and my Goan friend took the tandem back to Nairobi and handed it over to the Blind School. I shall never forget the trip, nor the hospitality shown to me by Africans, Asians and Europeans alike. I slept in a Mosque in the middle of nowhere and had entertaining conversations with the locals as I ate their food with my fingers. Above all I shall never forget dawn in the wilds; it seems to restore one's sets of values.

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### **WAR-BLINDED GERMAN SEEKS ENGLISH CORRESPONDENT**

A German war blinded man aged about 40 would like to correspond with an English opposite number in Braille. The correspondence would be in English. Volunteers are requested to write to the *Review*.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Richard Charles Hall** of Hassocks, Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's, in November, 1974. He served in the Second World War in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and was discharged in June 1946. He is the Managing Director of a Catering Company and is married with two daughters and one son.

**Cecil Benjamin Headland** of Shepherd's Bush, London, W.12, came to St. Dunstan's in December, 1974. He served in the First World War with the 1st Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment. On his discharge in 1919 he resumed work as a scaffolder, eventually becoming a foreman scaffolder until he was forced to retire. Over the years, his eyesight has deteriorated as a result of war injuries and he has now been admitted to membership. He is married and has one married daughter.

**Clifford Hiscox** of Mountain Ash, Glamorgan, came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He was a regular serviceman and he saw service in France and the Far East in the 2nd World War. He is married with a grown-up family.

**Charles McConaghy** of Belfast, joined St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He served with the Royal Ulster Constabulary and was wounded in Belfast early in November. He is married with a daughter. He will be starting his training in the near future.

**Hugh Graham Neish**, of London, came to St. Dunstan's in December, 1974. Major Neish, who is single, was a Regular Army Officer of the Royal Tank Regiment and served from the First War until 1948.

**Ernest Charles Lailey** of Oxted, Surrey, joined St. Dunstan's in September, 1974. He served in the 1st World War in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Following his discharge in 1919 he had his own business as an upholsterer, but gradually his sight has deteriorated. He is married and has one daughter.

**Samuel Preston Leigh**, of Bearsted, Maidstone, joined St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He was commissioned, served with the Suffolk Regiment in the First War and was wounded at Gallipoli. He is a widower, his wife having died just after he became a St. Dunstaner.

**Stanley Henry Cobbledick Hoblyn** of Plymouth, Devon, who joined St. Dunstan's in October, 1974. He served in the Royal Navy during the 1st World War and prior to that had been a boy recruit. After his discharge he worked as a plumber and gas fitter for a local Gas Company and in more recent years was employed by the Plymouth Corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Hoblyn are now enjoying a quiet retirement.

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## OBITUARY

### Mr. Cecil Hay

St. Dunstaners who knew him will be very sorry to hear of the death at his Canterbury home on 10th December of *Mr. Cecil George Jackson Hay*. He will be specially remembered for the help given at Church Stretton during the Second World War, particularly to the officers. Cecil Hay acted as reader, escort, counsellor and friend. We offer sincere sympathy to his twin sister Miss Betty Hay.





*Dennis Freeman at one of the incidents during the leadership course at Coventry.*

## WAYS OF LIFE 26

### LOOK WIDE TO SERVE—Dennis Freeman

Talking to David Castleton

Imagine you walk into a largish hall; as you do so a young woman, quarrelling with her boy-friend, stabs him. Suddenly you and your companions must cope with the situation: the victim has a terrible wound in his chest and is bleeding at the mouth, his assailant is in hysterics . . .

Or imagine you are in a countryside threatened by imminent flood. A member of your party is injured and helpless. The only way to save him is to hoist him at least eight feet up a tree nearby and up there light a fire to boil water for his treatment.

Impossible? Well the situations might be nearly that but it is not impossible to cope with them as groups of young people did with varying success on a leadership course for venture scouts and ranger guides held in Coventry recently.

One of the brains behind the organisation of this long week-end for some 36

young men and women is Assistant District Commissioner Dennis Freeman, a St. Dunstaner whose interest in the Scout Movement goes back to his own days as a boy in the scouts.

"A leadership course is not for leaders," he explains, "It's to give these kids a chance to see what leadership is. On the course, in each group, one has to take the lead in all these tests. This is where the stronger people stand out. They take charge anyway, and we shall bring this out in the final talks. The natural leaders come out and the people who are not very good at it perhaps realise that leadership is a bit more difficult than they thought."

Dennis was himself a scout until he was 16 when he joined the Royal Navy. He served from 1945 to 1953, mostly in the Middle East and North Atlantic, as a seaman radar plotter. Then a tropical





disease he contracted in Palestine brought about his discharge from the service, totally blind.

He joined St. Dunstan's but his health did not permit him to undergo training. "I was not well enough at the time. Still not strictly well enough for a lot of things. This is due to the flaring up of this tropical bug which is still active but can be dealt with by a bit of sensible living."

It was a blow leaving the service: "After all the years of training I'd just got to the interesting part and, of course, I was thrown out." To Dennis scouting is not really a substitute for the career he lost in the Navy, "I wouldn't say substitute, alternative, perhaps, would be a better word.

"I didn't want to be a Scout Leader. At the time my oldest son was in the scouts—he had been a cub and then went to the scouts—and the various Scout Leaders came along and said would I look after the Venture Scout Unit—because they could find nobody else, I suppose. I told them it was ridiculous but they kept coming back so in the end I said I'd give it a go just to prove it couldn't be done. I've been doing it ever since with various steps up on the way."

That was seven years ago and since then scouting has become Dennis's life. Betty, his wife, and his three children are, or have been, involved. Raymond, the oldest, now 21 and engaged to be married, was a Queen's Scout and earned the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award; Anne, 19, who has the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, was a ranger and is now a Brownie and Cub Scout Leader, she, too, is getting married next Easter to a Scout Leader; while Stephen, 15, who is a patrol leader with the Scout Section, has just won the Chief Scout Award.

Dennis devotes a tremendous amount of time to his work as Assistant District Commissioner and as leader of his own Venture Scout and Ranger Guide Unit. He listed for me his forthcoming week's engagements: "This week-end, starting off last Friday, we've been here all week-end for this course. Monday evening is the 92nd Unit night, I shall be there, of course. Tuesday evening I've got a District meeting of my Venture Scout Leaders. They will all come to my house. This is a monthly meeting so we can get on with planning events and getting over problems.

"Wednesday evening I've a tutorial





*Golden moment—outside Buckingham Palace with Anne and other members of the Unit who had received their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards.*

meeting for a course I'm helping to staff next week-end. That will be at my place. Thursday evening it will be the 92nd Group's Christmas Fair. My wife is on the parents' committee there so she's very much involved. My unit will be there selling hot dogs and things but in the middle I have to go to attend a presentation of a trophy for a competition we put on for a Scout Section. Following that, just to make it an interesting evening, I've a tutors' meeting for another course so I've got three meetings on Thursday.

"Next Friday, Saturday and Sunday I'm a tutor on a Venture Scout Leader's basic course, where I shall take a session on programme planning and be a tutor for the rest of the week-end and, by golly, it's back to Monday again—it's a Unit night. This is the normal pattern."

All this needs an understanding wife and Betty Freeman is just that, "I couldn't do it without her. There's three things I need for this job: That's the wife, the

telephone and the car. Without those it just wouldn't be on. I don't have to go haring up and down mountains—if I'm feeling all right I do tend to do this and I shouldn't—but there again, Betty drives the car when we do this. Management is the main point of the job and, I think, being on hand and being sympathetic, being a good listener probably helps.

"I've been with my own Unit now for seven years. I've been doing the District job for about four. They've always got somebody to go to in the event of trouble and they come to us with personal problems besides unit problems. I had one lad come to me at half-past eight on a Monday morning with a problem to do with his work. They're always welcome and the house is always full of venture scouts, rangers or both, which doesn't give us much time on our own."

Blindness, Dennis has found, is not too great a handicap in scouting, "Not more than it would affect anybody in any job.



Mobility is the main problem and reading. This is a problem where St. Dunstan's are doing a good thing. I'm having quite a lot of books transcribed into Braille. The rest my poor wife has to read to me. It can get very boring because a lot of it is technical stuff. She has an awful lot to read but she seems to cope all right."

### Attitudes to Blindness

We discussed the attitude of scouts and rangers towards a blind leader: "My own unit, I think, forget about it. They certainly don't make any special concession. I never expect them to. You mustn't play on blindness, otherwise you are getting away with it for the wrong reasons. Although I don't have to do the practical side, I still can do a back splice and an eye splice and the rest of the odd knots that we do. I can still demonstrate how to use a compass and other various things. It is helpful and it comes from being a sailor. There is no great merit in this.

"They are not inhibited at all with me. The only thing I do ask them, when we are at camp, that they do tell me where the wet pit is and not let me fall down that. They are quite liable to, in fact, and find it very funny, which I, myself, think is great because they are not cossetting me all the time and they're treating me as an eccentric uncle, I think that is the nearest thing, certainly not one of the boys—this is not my function."

### Pioneer of Mixed Units

In Coventry Dennis has been a pioneer of the mixed unit. There are now four of these units in Coventry and all of them in his District. "We started as a mixed unit two and a half years ago when the boys suggested it themselves. Mind you it was carefully engineered so that they would suggest it. They were given every opportunity to work with rangers and they did suggest it. Within two days we'd got it started as a mixed unit."

It was an idea Dennis had to sell to some local scout and guide authorities but it was an idea he believed in, "I think ranger guiding, venture scouting is for living. You try to teach them to live—it's not just tying knots and helping old ladies. This is one part of it but mainly it isn't this. It's teaching them to live and get on with people. It isn't a one sex



*A joke with Norah Bundock and George Byard, preparing an incident.*

society we live in and we've got to train to live in a multi-sex society. We're not monastic. I think the mixed idea is spreading—from this type of course, in fact. This sells the idea to the rangers and the venture scouts.

"I've encouraged it. This is the key word, encouragement. My job isn't just with venture scouts and rangers, it is with unit leaders. I have to have leaders for all my units and they have to be encouraged to take training courses, to put time in themselves. They get problems in dealing with units. Besides technical problems, how to deal with some job, there are occasional problems on how to deal with, maybe, a recalcitrant venture scout, or things like this."

Dennis has, himself, gone through the courses in his rise from Venture Scout Leader to A.D.C., "There are three main-courses to qualify as a Venture Scout Leader: A general information course, then we go on to the basic course—a



week-end job followed by a written study, six pretty deep questions. This is followed by a period in training while you actually do the job, then an advanced course which takes several week-ends covering an awful lot of ground. When we'd finished that we went on to Study Three, which is another six questions needing a small essay on each."

This written work is assessed at Scout H.Q. and is followed by four months in-service training under the close scrutiny of the District Commissioner, who submits reports on the trainee leader on which H.Q. decides whether to accept him. Quite a training stint, and now Dennis is embarked on further courses in connection with his work as Assistant District Commissioner, "This is the way the training goes. In fact, you are training all the time."

Now he wears the wooden toggles

which mark him as a member of quite a special group of people. "There certainly is spirit, regimental in the widest sense, you are part of the clan. You wear the little scout badge in your lapel and a scouter will always stop and talk. Wherever you are you will meet a scouter."

Dennis is one of the few working at District level to retain leadership of his own unit. He is not ambitious for further promotion. "It is not a question of rank in the Scout Movement. It doesn't matter what you are as long as you are doing a job. Whatever it is, you are all doing a job for one end. I personally wouldn't want to go any further because I'm dealing with the section I want."

He believes strongly in the value of scouting, "There's no point in doing this otherwise. It is mainly the spiritual, physical and mental development of young people. It can give a grounding

*Casualty simulation—members of Dennis's unit stage an accident expertly portraying the injuries and acting the symptoms, under the direction of Shirish Patel.*







*Dennis leads a religious discussion during the leadership course.*

into civilised behaviour, especially the age range we are dealing with in the venture scout and ranger guide sections, basically 15 years 9 months to 20, rangers slightly less, they leave when they are 19.

"The training programme, the award schemes, they are all designed to promote a better life, a fuller life, wide experience. The old Senior Scout motto used to be very good, it used to be 'Look wide'. We haven't a motto in the Venture Scouts but I think 'Ich Dien' would probably do as well, 'I serve'. This all comes into it, serving the community."

Venture scouts and ranger guides are encouraged to work with the younger sections of the movement as instructors; to go out and work in the community, helping old people and charities. There is close co-operation with the Church. Dennis owns to being a religious man but explains that religion is not the foremost part of venture scout work. "It is a part, it is an integral part but not the main part. Going by the unit programmes we do all sorts of things. Although the image is still big hats, helping the old lady across the road, it will change. We go ice skating, we've got gliding schools, canoeing schools, we do a lot of expeditions in wild country. We're far more, let's say, professional in our approach, far more adult."

Part of this approach is leaving as much as possible to the young people themselves, "This is the whole point of venture scout and ranger guide units: executive committees, they do the lot. They are self programming, self planning, self disciplined. They need an awful lot of guidance, of course. The art is to let them go ahead and make a mistake occasionally without it breaking their hearts. They do make mistakes occasionally on the programmes and things go wrong, terribly wrong. If it's going to be dangerous you don't let them, or if it's important, if it involves other people, you give a prod. If it isn't, well, you let them make the mistake and hope that they will learn by experience. They are a friendly crowd and they mostly do as they are asked. I don't give orders. I don't think we should give orders in this business, just suggestions and requests."

It is not always easy for an older person to stand by and resist the temptation to prevent the young making their own mistakes. I wondered how Dennis achieves this and the obvious bond he has created with his scouts and guides: "Absolute honesty with them. For instance, if I think they are a shower of peasants I tell them so. They take it from me. You don't get ill-will with it. I like to



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

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What word of cheer can we send out from Pearson House in these gloomy days of sugar shortage, lightning 'bus strikes and threats of worse to come. I must try not to mention the weather, but one of our stalwart escorts who comes from a country region, remarked recently that she thought she was growing webbed feet!

We had a challenge from the Lantern Club (Brighton Society for the Blind), to a friendly Quiz early in the month. Nine of us went all together, including the team—Margaret Stanway, Harry Boorman and Bill Riley. The Lantern team were Morris Raff, Ron French and Charles Emery. Their scorer was Miss Boulds, and Mrs. Gray, an ex-member of our Staff, kindly kept St. Dunstan's score.

The Question Master was Mr. G. Barnard, who was obviously experienced and put everyone at their ease in the twelve rounds of questions. The final score was Lantern Club—58, St. Dunstan's—48;

The team were able to have a chat with members of the audience.

The Theatre Royal presented a couple of contrasting oldies—Louisa M. Alcott's "Little Women" and Noel Coward's "Present Laughter".

The disc jockeys for the month were Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Highcock and Mrs. Dennis, whom we welcomed back after some sick leave and a holiday in Majorca.

We had a welcome return visit of the "Carden Consort". Richard, the guitarist, was really outnumbered this time with nine girls singing and playing recorders. It was really a jolly evening, especially when two girls played a yodelling tune and Johnny Sugden came in at the appropriate moment with a 'cuckoo'.

Miss Joan Alan, a violinist, came with a group recently and asked if she could bring some friends. We had an enjoyable evening with her solos, two singers and a comedian who also sang some of the old choruses and, of course, one is inclined to forget the accompanist, always the mainstay of good performances.

Nearly all were 'first-timers' whom we shall hope to meet again.

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## LOOK WIDE TO SERVE—*Continued*

think they are a good unit. We have a very high standard and a good record, even if I do say so myself."

How does he judge his own record, I asked him: "In about ten years' time I'll be able to judge it. At the moment the only thing I can say is the awards we've got, the standard of the people who have left the unit, what they are doing now, how they are behaving—ten years' time will be the time to prove whether or not our training has had any effect at all. It must be far deeper than knot tying and test marking. These activities are only a means to an end. Of course, the youngsters enjoy it and it gives them self-reliance.

"As I say, my job is not haring up and down mountains. It is planning, managerial, finding the right leader and trying to get him trained and keep him happy. After all, not everybody wants to do this sort of thing. In my unit I have two

Assistant Leaders who are both ex-venture scouts. But Leaders come in all shapes and sizes, all professions. One thing about scouting is there's no bias against anybody. It doesn't matter what your job is, as long as you are a good scouter you are in, you're welcome."

It takes all kinds, says Dennis, and all are welcome—he is proof himself. There have not been so many blind scout leaders, Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, another St. Dunstanian, is one of them. What does Dennis find for himself in scouting? "I think it must be the pleasure of being able to give. To be thankful, in fact, to be in a position to give. Because at one time I thought I was never going to be able to do anything." Through scouting Dennis has found that, despite blindness and other disability, he can still fulfil those two mottoes he admires. He can still look wide to serve.



# Reading Time

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1371*

## **Papillon**

by Henri Charrière

Translated by Patrick O'Brian

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading Time 24½ hours*

Henri Charrière, nicknamed Papillon because of a butterfly tattoo, was convicted in 1931, on perjured evidence, of a murder he did not commit. After a silence lasting almost forty years he now tells his incredible stranger-than-fiction story.

Transported to French Guiana for life, he immediately set about planning his escape. The first plan failed . . . and the second . . . and the third. There were many failures. Once he was brought back fifteen hundred miles and sentenced to solitary confinement as punishment.

Few survived "solitary". The death toll was a terrifying eighty per cent and most of the remainder went insane. But Papillon survived eleven months of the unspeakable conditions, kept alive, and sane, by his unshakeable determination to escape.

After thirteen years he was finally successful, making the first part of an unbelievable journey on two sacks of coconuts launched from a promontory on Devil's Island. He is now a respected Venezuelan citizen.

When the book first came out it caused a tremendous stir in France—and not only for its terrible indictment of the French Penal code. Leading critics raved about Papillon's marvellously "oral" style. Having read the book I can see what they mean.

This is most certainly *not* a book for the squeamish. It is by turns earthy, violent, cruel, even disgusting. But as a superbly written story of one man's indomitable courage, tenacity and resourcefulness, it is perhaps without

equal. I found it had the compelling, almost hypnotic quality of the "book you just can't put down".

*Cat. No. 1436*

## **The Elected Member**

by Bernice Rubens

*Read by Gabriel Woolf*

*Reading Time 7¾ hours*

The book opens with Norman, aged 41, profoundly disturbed by drug-addiction. He is taken to mental hospital, leaving his father Rabbi Schweck and sister Bella worried and apprehensive in the flat above the little shop in the East End of London.

Then, in a series of "flashbacks", Norman's story is told. A child-genius, he spoke five languages by the time he was eight, attracting the attention of the national press. His doting mother kept him young to enhance his genius and her own reflected glory—he was actually sixteen when he celebrated his *Bar-mitzvah* while his mother still pretended he was thirteen.

He read Law and was called to the Bar, with, it seemed, an assured brilliant future.

And there was David. Theirs was the perfect friendship. But they were more, much more, than "friends".

David and Esta, the Schweck's youngest child, plan to marry. But after a frank and all-revealing discussion with Norman, Esta runs away with, and marries, a Gentile and in consequence is regarded as "dead" by the Rabbi.

David's suicide follows and Norman takes to drugs and the rapid descent to the private Hell of the addict.

This is a sad, though intensely absorbing story of the disintegration of a Jewish family and the destruction of its Elected Member, cast irrevocably in the role of The Scapegoat.



# CLUB NEWS

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## LONDON

The Annual General Meeting of the St. Dunstan's London Club will be held on **Saturday, 1st February, 1975 at 1.15 p.m.**

All St. Dunstaners in the London district are invited to attend.

The football Pontoon which ended on

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### Reading Time—*continued*

Full marks to Gabriel Woolf who reads with sympathy and understanding—and marvellous portrayal of the thick unmistakable accents of the Eastern European Jewish emigree.

*Cat. No. 245*

#### **Much In Evidence**

by Henry Cecil

*Read by Robin Holmes*

*Reading Time 9½ hours*

Mr. Richmond withdraws £100,000 from his bank and insures it for the one night it will be lodged in his house. There is a burglary and the cash is stolen.

The insurance company is naturally suspicious and delay meeting the claim. Mr. Richmond sues and wins. The money is paid over.

Later fresh evidence turns up and he is charged with fraud. His defence rests on a series of very improbable coincidences.

There then arises a positive plethora of coincidences, involving the trial judge and his wife and prosecuting counsel and his wife.

After acquittal, Mr. Richmond decides on a sea-voyage to recuperate . . .

But he is not finished with coincidences—not by any manner of means!

A very readable book. The slightly larger than life court scenes are quite funny and the denouement is most ingenious.

30th November, 1974, was won by W. Phillips with the team Burnley and the "booby" was shared by Mrs. Allen and H. King with Blackpool and Bristol City respectively.

Domino Winners during the month of November were as follows:—

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 7th November  | 1. <b>W. Miller</b>      |
|               | 2. J. Majchrowicz        |
| 14th November | 1. <b>J. Majchrowicz</b> |
|               | 2. W. Miller             |
| 21st November | 1. <b>W. Miller</b>      |
|               | 2. C. Hancock            |
|               | J. Padley                |
| 28th November | 1. <b>W. Phillips</b>    |
|               | <b>W. Miller</b>         |

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all St. Dunstaners, their families and their friends and especially those who are members of our London Club, good luck, good health and happiness throughout the coming year.

*W. MILLER*

## MIDLAND

On Wednesday evening, 20th November, a group of our members with their wives or escorts, met at the "King's Highway", Quinton, Birmingham for an evening out.

It was a cold and wet night but everyone soon warmed up and we had an excellent meal and an enjoyable evening. We all look forward to another one some time in the future.

Our Christmas meeting was on 8th December and it is our big occasion of the year. A wonderful table was laid for us, once again, by our wives, "God bless them". Every Christmas goody was there and we even had some bread!



Father Christmas made his appearance after tea and the children welcomed him with singing "Jingle Bells" with gusto.

All the children received presents and club members were presented with the prizes they had won during the year at dominoes and darts. Each member who had not managed to win anything during the year received an envelope containing a little donation towards the cost of a tot during Christmas!

There were some very good prizes given this year and the winner had his choice first, then the runner up and so on down the list. I am sure everyone was pleased with this idea as it made it very fair.

Father Christmas then departed and we drank the health of those who would not be at our Christmas dinner and wished them a Merry Christmas.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon and evening and these gatherings are what makes all the hard work during the year fully worth while.

Our clubrooms are now being re-decorated and already are beginning to look much better and many alterations are to be made at this particular branch of the Royal British Legion. I am sure it will make things much more comfortable eventually.

All Midland Club members and their wives send best wishes for the New Year to all St. Dunstaners and their families wherever they may be and let us pray for a peaceful year ahead.

*DOUG CASHMORE,  
Secretary*

## **BRIGHTON**

### **BRIDGE CORRECTION**

May it be noted that our report on the Individual Competition of the Brighton Section for the Gover Memorial Cup of 1974 should have read:—

S. Webster 350

and not 348 as in the December *Review*. Therefore S. Webster tied with W. Lethbridge for Third place.

*P. NUYENS,  
Secretary.*

## **St. Dunstan's Fishing Club**



The last event in the Fishing Club calendar for 1974 was a fishing week-end from Newhaven on Saturday, 30th November and Sunday, 1st December. Although some 20 St. Dunstaners with helpers assembled at Newhaven at 9 a.m. on Saturday we were not able to put to sea for another two hours owing to doubtful weather forecasts.

The skippers of our boats were Bert Donno in the Javazee, Dick Hunt in Pisces, David Baker-Beal in Nikaria and Roy Archer in Bridgehaze. Once on board we were helped into our new life-jackets. It has been decided that all St. Dunstaners must wear life-jackets on fishing expeditions and by the decision of Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, the cost to each St. Dunstaner for equipping himself with a jacket is limited to £5.00.

Unfortunately two of the four boats had to return to harbour at about 1 p.m. but even in the two remaining boats there was not much variety or quantity of fish caught. All the skippers and helpers did their best to help us and counteract the rough conditions.

The weather proved too much for our venturing out on Sunday so that prizes were won for performances on Saturday only. The results were as follows:—

Heaviest bag of the day. 11 lbs. Monty Golding.

Heaviest fish of the day. 2 lbs. Shared by Monty Golding and Bernard "Lordie" Blacker.

During the week-end our thoughts turned to our friend and regular helper, Mr. Joe Kennedy, who is unable to continue to come out fishing with us and we send him our best wishes and many thanks.

The next fishing event in our calendar is a Fishing week-end at Newhaven, Saturday, 22nd February and Sunday, 23rd February, 1975. We hope to see some nice cod coming in then.

*BOB FULLARD*





## IT STRIKES ME

### Key to Success

As briefly reported in our last issue, on 22nd November, **Alan Key** of Dartford, went to dinner at the Cafe Royal. It was the Long Service Award Dinner of Hall Thermotank Ltd. and Alan was one of those honoured for 25 years' service with the Company. He received a gold pocket watch but what gave him almost as much pleasure was the speech made by Mr. C. R. Croucher, Managing Director of Axstane Properties Ltd., in introducing Alan to Sir Iain Stuart, Chairman of Hall Thermotank Ltd., who made the presentation.

This is part of Mr. Croucher's tribute to Alan:—

"The next recipient is a very special person who, although he has worked at Dartford for 25 years, has not seen a single component that he has machined, nor any of his workmates, nor any of the extensive rebuilding that has been going on in recent years. Regretfully he lost his sight in 1941 whilst on manoeuvres with the Army when he took the full blast of a Bren gun. He has operated a capstan machine for 25 years with a splendid work record and with an incredibly low reject rate. He is able, by feeling the threads that he has produced, to appreciate that the die box needs adjusting or replacing and more often than not he is able to do this himself.

"He is the most cheerful chap in the Works and always ready to crack a joke with all and sundry. He is eternally grateful for all the help and guidance that his



*John Proctor.*

workmates readily give and especially to Sister Shirley Killick for the daily treatment she administers for him.

"It is with very great pleasure that I introduce this wonderful person—Mr. Alan Key."

Worth a gold watch, a record like that.

### Travelling Man

After 26 years in business in Rottingdean **John Proctor** has retired. Over those years he has organised travel for many people connected with St. Dunstan's and become widely known among residents of Rottingdean and Newhaven as the man to solve their travelling problems.

John was totally blinded and lost his hands when, as a sergeant in the Royal Engineers, he was dismantling a booby trap which . . . "didn't behave according to the book." Despite his double handicap he succeeded in building up his travel business at 2, Marine Drive, Rottingdean, which has now been sold on his retirement. The new proprietors are Captain P. J. Fry, D.F.C., Croix de Guerre, an airline captain with Dan-Air, and his son Ian. Typically John is anxious for them and hopes St. Dunstan's business will still go their way. For himself, John is a keen radio-ham and should not find time dragging in his well-earned retirement.



## Serves Committee

Another long serving St. Dunstaner is **Ernest Russell**, of Leeds. He has been an employee of the Local Authority for 40 years, 33 of them working as a telephonist since he was blinded. Just recently he has taken up new duties in a new building under the regionalisation of local government.

He serves on the NALGO regional executive committee and has been recently elected as President of the White Rose Branch of the Royal British Legion of which he was a founder member. This is a unique branch consisting only of members who have held office within Branch, County and Area. Ernie is the first member of "Other Ranks" to be elected President. As well as his St. Dunstan's badge he proudly wears the Gold Badge of the Royal British Legion and sometime you may also see him wearing his Leeds United supporters' tie.

Incidentally, Ernie was one of the first two 2nd War St. Dunstaners to take up employment after training at Church Stretton.

**Magog**

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# FAMILY NEWS

## Births

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Boleslaw Gutowski* of Formby, Lancs. who are delighted to announce the safe arrival of a son, Jan Bernard, born on 29th November, 1974.

## Silver Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Cecil (Paddy) Paddick* of East Barnet, Herts, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 15th December, 1974.

## Ruby Wedding

Warm congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Robinson*, of Patcham, Brighton, Sussex, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 29th September, 1974.

## Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lock* of Gosfield, Nr. Halstead, Essex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th December, 1974

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Sam Taylor* of Shepshed, Nr. Loughborough, Leics., who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 24th August, 1974, and this was marked by a family party in the local Church Hall.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:—

*Guy Bilcliff*, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of two more grandchildren.

A daughter, Rebecca Louise, was born to his son, Robert and daughter-in-law, Gail, on 15th February, 1974 and another daughter, Emma Louise, was born on 22nd February to their son, Brian and daughter-in-law, Maureen.

Some St. Dunstaners may remember that Robert and Brian were two of the Bilcliff Triplets and Mrs. Bilcliff comments on the coincidence that their wives should have their babies within a week of one another. The Bilcliffs now have 11 grandchildren—9 grand-daughters and 2 grandsons.

*Arthur Holmes* of Southampton, who has pleasure in announcing the birth of a grandson, Tye Holmes, born on 22nd July, 1974, to his son Arthur, and daughter-in-law Georgina, their first child, and the second grandchild for our St. Dunstaner.

*Alan Moore*, Oxhey, Herts, has pleasure in announcing the safe arrival of a grandson, Richard Alan, born in September, 1974, to his son Michael and his daughter-in-law.

*Joe Laverty* of Downpatrick, Co. Down, is pleased to announce the birth of a girl, to his daughter Kathleen, on 3rd November, 1974. The baby is his first grandchild.



## Long Life and Happiness to:—

Janette, daughter of *William Arnold* of Keighley, Yorks, who married Francis Dine on 23rd August, 1974.

Sandra, daughter of *Antimus Haralambous* of Winchmore Hill, London, N.21, married Marc Uam-Laeke in Brisbane, Australia, on 23rd November, 1974. Both Mr and Mrs. Haralambous are at present in Brisbane where they attended their daughter's wedding.

Michael David, son of *Thomas Mugan*, Hove, Sussex, married Cheryl Tremain from Perth, Australia, at St. Mary Magdeline Church, Thornham Magna, Suffolk, on 10th October, 1974. The young couple have now emigrated to Australia.

Anthony, second son of *Thomas Mugan*, married Kathleen Paine at St. Paul's Church, Royton, Lancs., on 26th October, 1974 and they are living in Royton.

Christine Judith, daughter of *Isaac Ostle* of Cockermouth, married Edward Keith Thompson, on 12th October, 1974. The young couple both work for the North Western Electricity Board in Workington and have moved into their own home which is near Christine's parents.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Mrs. Hill, wife of *Joseph Hill*, Portishead, Bristol, who mourns the sudden death of her sister, to whom she was very devoted, on 14th November, 1974.

*Cyril Eighteen* of Reading, Berks., who mourns the death of his mother, in November 1974, at the age of 86.

*William Veness* of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, mourns the death of his wife, Mrs. Betty Veness, who passed away suddenly at home on 9th November, 1974. Mrs. Veness had been in ill-health for some time and our sympathy is extended to our St. Dunstan and to Mrs. Veness's family by her first marriage.

## In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

### Walter Melvyn Morgan. Royal Artillery

Walter Melvyn Morgan of Brighton, Sussex, died on 5th December, 1974, at the age of 65.

He served in the Royal Artillery from September, 1940 until his discharge in January, 1946. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1949.

He trained for industrial work and started his first job as a capstan lathe operator with a firm in Brighton. In 1950 he married and he and his wife settled in Brighton. His untimely death is particularly regrettable as only a few days before being taken ill, Mr. Morgan had retired from industrial work after working for nearly 25 years in the same firm.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Monica Morgan, and members of his family who live in Cardiff.

### John Holbrooke Smith, 7th Seaforth Highlanders

John Holbrooke Smith of Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, died in hospital, on 29th November, 1974. He was 81 years of age.

He enlisted in the 7th Seaforth Highlanders in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1916, when he joined St. Dunstan's.

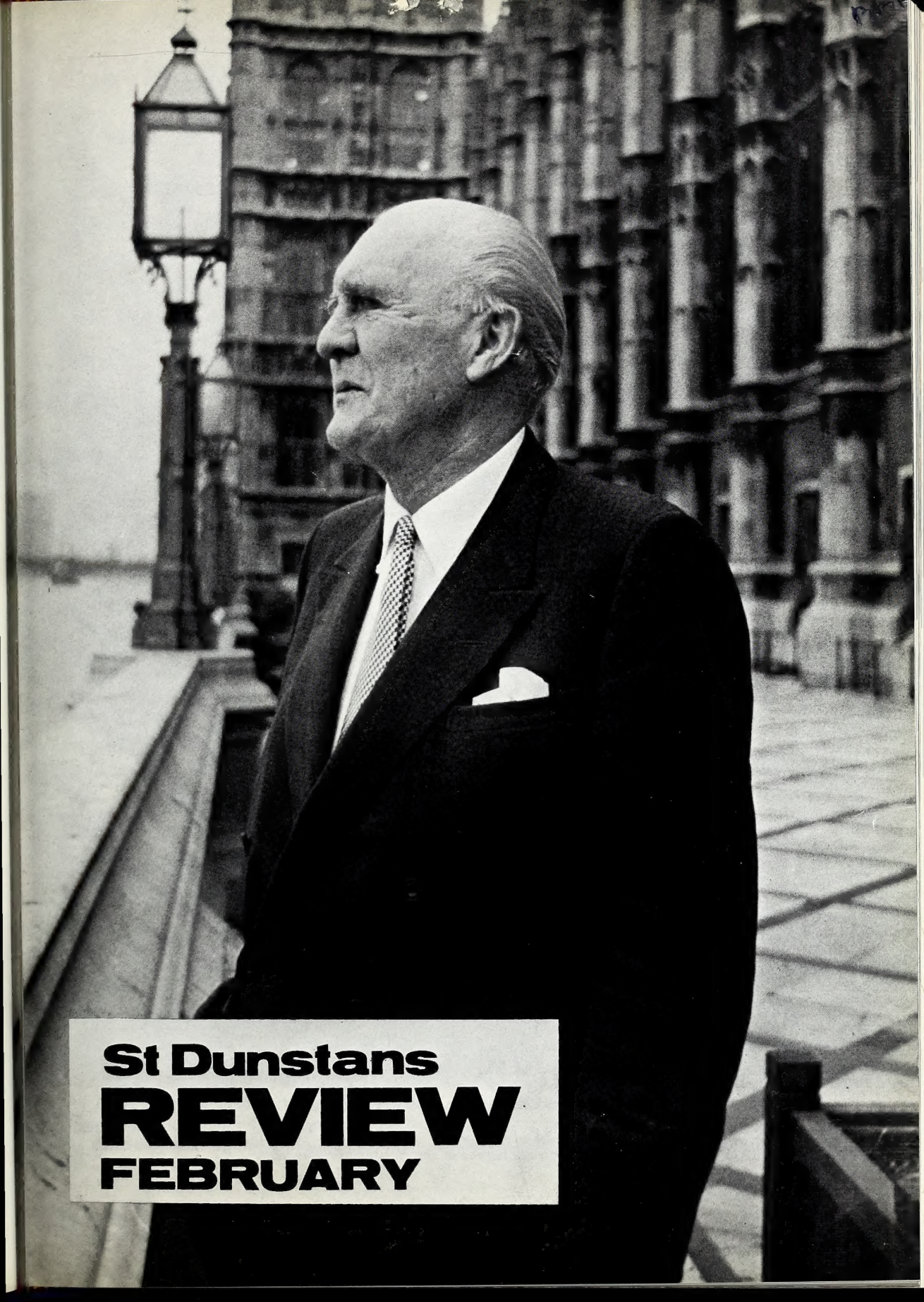
He trained in massage and took up his first appointment in this profession in 1919 at the Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Chesterfield. Within a very short time he was doing excellent work which included the treatment of miners who had met with accidents at the local collieries, many of whom he assisted towards rehabilitation.

In 1947 he left Chesterfield to take up an appointment at the General Hospital in Birmingham, which he combined with a successful private practice. In 1953 he retired from his hospital work and concentrated upon his private practice until 1968, when failing health necessitated his complete retirement. In spite of this, he remained as active as possible and both he and his wife were very keen Bridge players and enjoyed many visits to Ovingdean, both for holidays and the annual bridge congresses.

Unfortunately his health deteriorated at the beginning of this year, but he was nursed most devotedly at home by Mrs. Smith until admitted to hospital just a few days before he passed away.

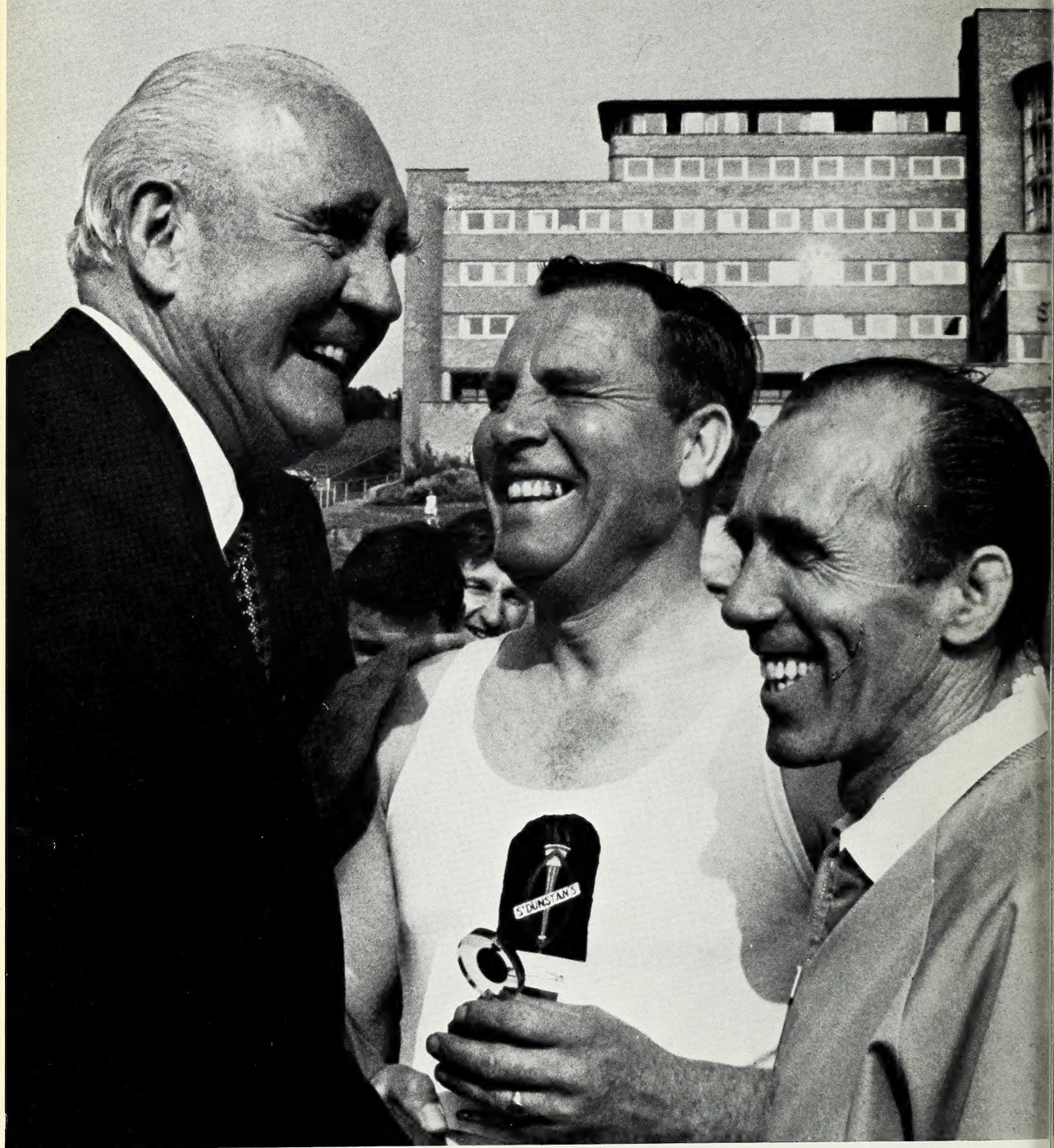
He leaves a widow, Mrs. Constance Smith, and his two daughters and his son, all of whom are married.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**FEBRUARY**





*During sports week-end Lord Fraser shares a joke with Bill Phillips and John Carnochan, St. Dunstan's Sports Officer.*

**COVER PICTURE:** *Lord Fraser on the terrace of the Houses of Parliament.*



# A LEGEND IN HIS LIFETIME

Dear Lady Fraser,

The Queen has asked me to write to you to say how sad she was to hear of your husband's death and to send you and your family most sincere sympathy from Prince Philip and herself. Her Majesty remembers so well the tremendous services which Lord Fraser rendered to blind people both in this country and throughout the world.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Moore, C.B., C.M.G.

By the death of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, St. Dunstan's has lost a truly outstanding personality. We mourn him deeply, but we rejoice in the benefits which his genius for organisation has brought to all with whom he came in contact. His memory will long be with us.

From our President, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt.

## THE LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE, C.H., C.B.E. 1897 - 1974

It can be said of only a very few people that they have become a legend in their own lifetime but among this small and distinguished band may be counted Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, whose fifty-three years' service to the war-blinded as Chairman of St. Dunstan's ended with his death on 19th December, 1974.

William Jocelyn Ian Fraser was born at Eastbourne on 30th August, 1897. In July, 1916, just one month short of his nineteenth birthday, he was shot through the eyes by a German sniper during the Battle of the Somme and he returned to England and to St. Dunstan's for rehabilitation and training. He found many other men blinded on the battlefields or at sea already assembled in Regent's Park where the work of rehabilitation, training and settlement in employment was being actively pursued under the inspired leadership of another blind man, Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt., G.B.E., Founder of St. Dunstan's, who was generally referred to quite simply as "The Chief".

Sir Arthur's firm conviction was that these young blinded soldiers and sailors, 2,000 of whom had been admitted to St. Dunstan's by the year 1920 with hundreds of others yet to come in, were quite capable of leading full and useful lives in

the ordinary community of sighted people once they had been brought to realise that this was no idle pipe dream but a real possibility, and he epitomised this attitude of mind in a phrase that he coined, "Victory over Blindness". He invited Captain Fraser to join his team at St. Dunstan's Villa and to form a new department which would look after the needs of the war-blinded after training was over and settlement in useful occupations had been achieved. Then Sir Arthur died suddenly in December, 1921, and Captain Fraser became Chairman at the age of twenty-four.

Help from St. Dunstan's has brought remarkable success stories to thousands of blinded ex-servicemen and women, but in none of them do we see the Founder's concept more fully realised than in the astonishing career of Lord Fraser. He was much more than a leader of the war-blinded, he helped the blind population generally, not only with advice in the counsels of the Royal National Institute for the Blind and other blind welfare organisations, but also by himself inventing or furthering the inventions of others which have proved invaluable aids to blind people in problems connected with work, recreation, reading and travel.





*To mark his twenty-fifth anniversary as Chairman of St. Dunstan's, Lord Fraser received a token presentation of an engraved walking stick from Sir Winston Churchill, who said; "We all owe a great debt to this man who has found the way and shown the way to extract from the heart of affliction the means of grace and the hope of glory."*

He was, for example, the instigator of the Talking Book project in Britain. As early as 1919 he was experimenting with the Columbia Graphophone and Pathephone Companies much of this work being carried out in a workshop in his garden. This led finally to the creation of the first Talking Books for the Blind in 1934—and incidentally, the earliest L.P. records.

In 1924, after serving in local government in the old L.C.C., Captain Fraser entered Parliament as M.P. for North St. Pancras and he served almost without a break in the House of Commons for a total of thirty-four years, during the last eighteen of which he was the Member for Morecambe and Lonsdale in Lancashire. In 1958, Sir Ian Fraser (he had been knighted in 1934) was one of a select

band of people on whom were conferred life peerages for the first time, and from that date he continued to serve the country in the House of Lords.

During the whole of his time in Parliament our Chairman was particularly concerned with the problems of ex-servicemen and he was their champion, perhaps their principal champion, during his time in the House of Commons. He was a member of the Royal British Legion from its foundation in 1921, and among his various Legion posts he served for eleven years as National President. He also served two terms as a Governor of the B.B.C.

Whilst accumulating experience in the affairs of our country as a Member of Parliament—and having qualified as Barrister-at-Law in his spare time—Lord





*... And on his fiftieth anniversary Lord and Lady Fraser receive an antique chiming clock, and other gifts from St. Dunstaners, from Joseph Swales, blinded in the first world war.*

Fraser was invited to join the Boards of various companies as a Director. He was Chairman of several companies in Britain and was also head of his own family business in South Africa. Among his recreations were fishing, at which he became very proficient, horse-riding, rowing, bridge and, he liked to add, arguing.

Time and again it has been shown that, after suitable training, the handicap of blindness can be overcome given the necessary determination, ability and the seizing of opportunities when they present themselves, but the disability itself is always present to be mastered or circumvented hour by hour. To a blind person the help which a happy marriage can bring is a treasure of inestimable value. Lord Fraser was married in 1918, exactly two years to the day after he lost his sight and Lady Fraser was his constant guide

and companion during all those years of great activity. Miss Irene Mace, as she was before her marriage, had been personal assistant to Sir Arthur Pearson and she has been intimately connected with the welfare work of St. Dunstan's from its foundation. She is thus known to and held in high esteem and affection by every St. Dunstaner at home and overseas, and Lord Fraser himself modestly described her as, "By far my better half".

In the fifty-three years of Lord Fraser's Chairmanship, St. Dunstan's influence has spread throughout the Commonwealth and South Africa. His status internationally was indicated in October, 1971 when the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, celebrating its own half-century, presented Lord Fraser with the Helen Keller Award for 'distinguished service to the Blind'—a citation which sums up his career.





*During his term as President of the Royal British Legion, Lord Fraser, welcomes H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to a Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall.*

*With Helen Keller and her escort, Polly Thompson.*

## IN MEMORIAM

**by Dr. DONALD G. HOPEWELL**

**M.A., LL.B.(Cantab.), Hon.LL.D.(Leeds),**

**Member of the Council of St. Dunstons**

For over fifty years, St. Dunstaners throughout the world have been able and accustomed to look to Ian Fraser as their leader and guide, their champion and protector, their inspirer, helper and faithful friend. In any time of doubt or difficulty, they could put their problems and anxieties before him with the assurance that they would receive a patient and exhaustive hearing, find encouragement, wise counsel and a happy solution. Now those happy and fruitful years are over; and some may be asking themselves what manner of man it was who was able to carry through a complete revolution in the world of blindness, to show thousands of blind people, both inside and outside St. Dunstan's, how to confront and overcome the fears and frustrations of loss of sight, while, at the same time, making for himself one of the most remarkable careers in modern times.

Nature was kind to him, giving him superlative good looks, a fine physique, wonderful energy and enthusiasm, fine courage and determination, a mind at once practical and scientific, an acute





brain and a great heart to enable him to understand and sympathise with his fellow-men—especially with those who, like him, had lost their sight. So, when fate struck him with blindness, as she did so many other of the finest of his young contemporaries, he was better equipped than some to face and deal with the new and strange problems that beset him. We do not know at what moment and with what difficulty he accepted the fact of blindness and began to learn how to be blind: but we do know that he gave his whole mind, soul and body to finding the ways in which he and others like him could best meet and overcome the new and strange predicament in which he and they were placed. Thus, when within a few years and while still a very young man, he was called upon to become Chairman of St. Dunstan's on the death of its Founder, Sir C. Arthur Pearson, Bt., he was found fit and ready to tread the long and hard road that opened to him. For the situation and very existence of St. Dunstan's were at that moment precarious and its finances in a difficult and dangerous condition. It was only by superhuman efforts and with the valued help of the late W. G. Askew, that he was able to place the Society on a strong financial base, to recover the full confidence of the public, and to organise the growth and successful development



*Campaigning in the early days.*

*At his introduction into the House of Lords, Lord Fraser is seen with his sponsors, Lord Lovat, Chieftain of the Fraser clan, left, and Lord Astor of Hever, right.*







*At the microphone during a St. Dunstan's Radio Ham week-end.*

*Lord Fraser takes a keen interest in the Optacon reading machine at a demonstration at St. Dunstan's. The inventor, Prof. John Linvill looks on as his blind daughter Candy explains the technique.*



which are its pride today. Starting from the principle on which the Society was founded—that the blind must be equipped with such powers and skills as would enable them to live in a sighted world and there compete with the sighted on equal terms—he developed great schemes of training and welfare that are essential to that principle's success. His scientific bent enabled him to realise the value for the blind of many modern inventions; and he set up a scientific department for research into new knowledge and its application to the needs of the handicapped. Perhaps the most spectacular work to which he and such department gave special attention was the invention and development of the Talking Book, thereby bringing immeasurable help and happiness, not only to St. Dunstaners but to the blind throughout the world.

### **Inspiration**

It was his special good fortune to meet and marry the young V.A.D. Miss Irene Mace whose inspiration led Sir Arthur Pearson to found St. Dunstan's. Hand in hand, they have followed the road of devoted service to the Blind and have become, indeed, the Father and Mother of St. Dunstan's.

For all the strength of his belief in the power of the blind to succeed, his clear common sense told him that there are a few ways in which they can never hope fully to compete with the sighted; and he made it clear to them that they should not repine at those limitations nor waste their time in attempts to defeat what could not possibly be overcome; but should rather address their knowledge and skill to those matters in which they could without doubt hold their own.

His personal career would have been remarkable for a sighted man; for one who was blind, it was amazing. A Barrister, a clever business man, a Director of many Companies and a highly successful Chairman of others, he served for years on the London County Council and, for still longer, as one of the most fearless and outspoken, respected and beloved, Members, first of the House of Commons and then of the House of Lords. In Parliament, he was known as the champion of Ex-servicemen, (being



for eleven years President of the Royal British Legion), and as the mouthpiece of the Farmers. When he first came to represent the very rural constituency in which I then lived, it was my pleasant privilege to guide his first steps to a knowledge of agriculture and the elements of rural life then largely new ground to him; and the zeal and persistence with which he studied the subject both in its theory and its practice, was evidence of that thoroughness with which he made himself acquainted with all matters brought before him, especially those of a new kind.

Life for him was not all work. He was a very keen sportsman, finding special delight in riding, swimming, rowing and, above all, fishing, in all of which he was proficient. Indeed, many of his happiest leisure hours were spent on, or in, salmon rivers in Scotland or in the Lake District.

However loyally and assiduously he served the nation in Parliament or devoted himself to the world of business, St. Dunstan's was his first love and care. Other branches of, and societies for, blind welfare claimed his interest and sympathy; and, under his guidance, St. Dunstan's gave generously from its funds to projects which benefited the civilian blind as well as the Ex-service War-blinded; but he always stressed the point that money provided by a generous public for the special work of St. Dunstan's must be employed in that work alone. His schemes for development and extension of the work were many and occupied him to the end. The reconstruction of Pearson House gave him great satisfaction; but, alas, he will not be able to see the reopening of the renovated Ovingdean, so rightly known now as Ian Fraser House. Others of his projects must now come to maturity without him; but, inspired by him, they will, when complete, add more lustre to his name and fame. He will never be forgotten, and, as the years pass, his reputation will grow in strength and his place among the immortals become more and more secure.

"Lofty designs must close in like effects:  
Loftily lying,  
Leave him—still loftier than the world  
suspects,  
Living and dying".



*Fishing a Canadian river.*

*Rowing for Parliament v. St. Dunstan's at Putney. Fellow rowing Members are Mr. H. Sutcliffe (Royton), Mr. R. Law (Kingston-upon-Hull), Mr. L. Gluckstein (Nottingham, East) coxswain, Lady Fraser. Lord Fraser was stroke and the Commons won by inches.*





## MR. COLIN EGLIN

*Part of the Address by Colin Eglin, Deputy Chairman of St. Dunstan's (South Africa), at the Memorial Service held on 23rd December at St. Stephen's Church, Pinelands, where the Parish Priest is our St. Dunstaner the Rev. Michael Norman.*

I, with many of you, have always felt very humble when I have been in the presence of Ian Fraser, for measured in human terms I believe him to be one of the greatest men of the century. For here was a man who, through sheer strength of personality — through courage, and through perseverance turned the disability of blindness into an asset, and then went on to share his experience with his fellows.

We have come to know Ian Fraser as a man with a many sided personality. Most of us know him as a tremendously determined man, one who, once he summed up a situation and set his mind on an objective frankly would let very little stop him.

He believed rules were there to help and not to hinder, and so in his own pragmatic way he used his judgment to find out whether, in order to achieve an objective, the rules should be applied or the rules should be ignored.

He had a great zest for life—anyone who had spent just one day with Ian Fraser could testify to that. There was a restless creativeness about him—impatient when things did not move fast enough. He accomplished more in one day than almost anybody else with full sight.

He was tolerant and infinitely patient with those men who had real problems, but he was intolerant and impatient with superficiality and posturing, and self-righteousness.

He had an uncanny knack for getting to the heart of a problem or to the heart of a person; of cutting through the cant or verbiage; of seeing men and women for what they were and not what they claimed to be.

Of course there was something of the Showman in Ian Fraser as distinct from a show-off. For here was a man whose showmanship was not a device to mislead the public or hide shortcomings, but was a natural expression of his talents and his warm outgoing personality, and he used this not to attract attention to himself, but to evoke interest in, and sympathy for the cause that he was promoting.

He was blessed with a very real sense of humour; an ability to laugh at situations, and perhaps more important still, an ability to laugh at himself.

*"At Home" to British television viewers in a programme with that title, Lord Fraser talks to Richard Dumbleby.*







*At a Reunion in London of handless St. Dunstaners, Lord Fraser chats with Stan Southall, Dick Brett, and their wives.*

Above all things he has had two qualities which have made him a great leader of men—*courage and compassion.*

Courage to face up to and not to run away from situations which are the realities of life; courage to take decisions; courage to accept responsibility, and courage to respond to challenges.

Compassion, not a mawkish sentimentality for people in trouble but a very real deep concern for people, especially his sightless colleagues.

For those of us who worked with him in St. Dunstan's, we will always marvel at his interest in each and every member of our great St. Dunstan's family.

Ian Fraser—Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, you were at most times irrepressible, at times I think even you will admit you were a little impossible, but at all times we loved you and we admired you for what you were. To thousands you have been a leader and a friend; to millions you have been an inspiration. For you have brought dignity to blindness and with that you brought hope and courage and a new sense of purpose to your fellow men. We thank you Ian Fraser—We salute you.

*Entertaining the Paramount Chief Regent of Basutoland, Mantsebo Seeiso, includes a visit to the London Zoo and feeding the sea-lions.*







## LADY ELLERMAN

This tribute is but a personal appreciation of a close and lasting friendship that my beloved husband and I shared with Ian Fraser for more than thirty years, and an attempt to portray the exhilarating impact of his magnetic personality.

He was strikingly handsome and he radiated a glowing zest for life, a rare intellect and wisdom, an astringent forthrightness and directness—even at times toughness—but always combined with gentleness, compassion and deep understanding.

He was a man of great willpower and determination with a tremendous sense of duty and responsibility. These golden qualities were intriguingly combined with a delightful sense of fun and a willingness to investigate other people's point of view. This sense of fun and an ability to be able to laugh at himself enabled him at times to abandon himself to the enjoyment of the moment and be as carefree as a school boy.

Man of action, of rare courage, his enquiring mind stored a wealth of knowledge about a diversity of subjects.

He was a realist, sometimes a cynic, but also he could reach for the stars; he

allowed neither frustration nor worries to dampen his ardour for causes close to his heart. His charm was irresistible.

There were no limits to the trouble he would go to in helping a friend or even just a fellow human being. To him worries were things to be faced and unravelled and after being solved put into the background and forgotten.

One tended to overlook his loss of sight, for he was a man of great independence. Nevertheless, when he needed assistance he received it with a generous and unhesitating gratitude. Thus he never failed to express his affection, admiration and gratitude to his dearly loved wife; he constantly conveyed to her his deep appreciation of all that she meant to him. In human relationships her well being and happiness meant more to him than anything in life.

Of the many activities, in which he immersed himself, the nearest and dearest to his heart was St. Dunstan's.

He would not wish us, who were close to him, to grieve. His great deeds and ideas will live on, giving help and hope to many thousands of people.

Let us rejoice that he, who was technically blind, shed such a powerful light on our lives.



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 660

FEBRUARY 1975

5p MONTHLY

## COUNCIL CHANGES

*The following is the text of a letter sent to all St. Dunstaners on 15th January by Dr. Donald G. Hopewell, M.A., LL.B. (Cantab), Hon., LL.D. (Leeds).*

The lamented death of Lord Fraser left St. Dunstan's without a Chairman and, for the smooth running of the work of the Society, it was advisable to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

As St. Dunstan's is a Company Limited by Guarantee, with its Council in the position of the Directors of a commercial company, the power to appoint a Chairman and other Officers is vested in the Council alone. Accordingly, at a special Meeting held on Monday, 13th January, the Council made the following appointments:

Chairman:	<b>Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme</b>
Vice-Chairman:	<b>Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.</b>
Honorary Treasurer:	<b>Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan</b>

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell was also made a Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Mr. Garnett-Orme, whom most of you have met, is a distinguished Merchant Banker who first came to St. Dunstan's as Financial Adviser, being later appointed Honorary Treasurer and in 1967 also Vice-Chairman. Sir Michael is without doubt one of the most famous living blind Englishmen, and Mr. Delmar-Morgan, who is a Merchant Banker, has acted as our Assistant Honorary Treasurer for some years.

As a small recognition of her long, devoted and unexampled services to St. Dunstan's since its foundation, **Lady Fraser** has, subject to confirmation by the Annual General Meeting, been appointed a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's and a Member of its Council.

As the oldest and one of the longest serving Members of Council, I have been asked to let you know of these appointments before they are made public. I know that they will give you pleasure, and you can be sure that the future of St. Dunstan's will be safe in the hands of those appointed.

## FROM LADY FRASER

I have received an enormous number of delightful letters, telegrams and 'phone messages from St. Dunstaners and their wives; from widows; from staff (past and present) and from many others who have been or are connected with St. Dunstan's.

The writers have paid wonderful tributes to my dear husband, which have been a great comfort to me.

I am replying personally to all but this will take time so I want to thank you, in this issue, most warmly for your sympathy.

I look forward to carrying on my work at St. Dunstan's and to keeping in touch with you all.



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

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Reflecting on December, what a month it has been. I feel that all would agree our emotions have been stretched in all directions as the following will reveal.

Our good friends, Dolly and Cyril, started the month's Sunday entertainment. What excellent pianists they are, and they played many songs we could join in. We much appreciate their visits as they are so busy with accompanying and producing shows this time of year.

The Rottingdean Dramatic Society paid their first visit to Pearson House and read "Big Bad Mouse" by Phillip King and Falkland Carey. It's the story of a "mouse" who became a "man" because he was accused of chasing a young girl in the park!

The "Arena" brought a new programme called "Patterns in the Snow". This talented trio have some very original ideas and present a well balanced entertainment.

## Light Queen

Our two Swedish students, who have been on the staff for several months, entertained us delightfully on the 13th December, as they celebrated St. Lucia, the visit of the "Light Queen". Matron and some of the staff were greeted at 7 a.m. outside their bedrooms with them singing Santa Lucia, and were offered traditional coffee and saffron bread. They wore long white dresses, the Queen wears a crown of candles and a red silk ribbon round the waist; her maidens wear similar but tinsel belts and crowns and carry a white candle. They repeated the performance in the Winter Garden prior to coffee for all the St. Dunstaners and at a later date Ron Smith recorded them for the local radio programme "Listen and See".

The annual visit to Roedean School for the "Service of Nine Lessons and Carols" came on the 13th December. What a heartwarming service this is. It gives the first opportunity to join in and sing carols in true choral splendour. The readings start with a junior girl and finish with the Headmaster.

Friday, 20th December, what a great shock to us all when Commandant assembled everyone in the Winter Garden to announce the sudden death of Lord Fraser. Everyone was stunned while we paid a silent tribute to a very great man who will be sorely missed by St. Dunstan's. He had spoken to us all early in the month with no hint of his pending admission to hospital, which prevented him attending the final Grocers' Dinner. Lady Fraser sent a message that we were to continue with the Christmas programme, although on that day our thoughts flew to her in her great loss.

This sad day was the occasion of the Staff Christmas Lunch; with enthusiasm a little dulled, the gaily decorated table and excellent meal with wine, and the company of Mr. Wills, whom Commandant welcomed, raised our spirits somewhat. Mrs. Rokosz and Mrs. Nichols, two very busy people, must be congratulated and thanked for choosing over a hundred gifts with so much thought. Dr. O'Hara thanked the catering staff for us all, for their efforts.

The Sunday prior to Christmas, Tom Eales soothed us with his stereo programme of sacred and lighthearted music.

## Carols

We were most fortunate to have the "Palm Court Trio" to accompany the Christmas Eve Carols sung by the V.A.D.s and Orderlies. To add an international flavour Miss Bergstrand and Miss Happstadius sang two Swedish Festival songs and Miss Toland, our American V.A.D., sang a Mexican song in Spanish. The Trio completed the evening with a grand selection with solos from Mrs. Watson, cello, Mr. Watson, violin, Mr. (George) Austin, tenor, who came from the Sussex Hospital where he had been entertaining, and our Henry Kerr—piano solos. Miss Lynne was the accompanying pianist throughout. Sherry and mincepies in the interval was the forerunner of the Christmas fare.

For those that did not go to Mid-night Service, Christmas started with our





*Celebrating Santa Lucia, Swedish style, at Pearson House are Astrid Bergstrand and Karin Hapstadius, students from Sweden.*

Lessons and Carol Service in St. George's Church with Readings by Matron and Staff.

The distribution of St. Dunstan's gifts to all by Commandant followed coffee, we hope not to see a hair out of place as all were given a super hairbrush—I'm not sure what the one or two thought, whose heads have pushed through too far to warrant a present of this nature!

The Grocers, including Mrs. Lillie and Mr. Phillips and friends came to see us from Northgate to join us in a drink and to chat to all gathered in the Winter Garden.

At lunchtime the Dining Room received its transformation and looked most attractive and colourful with red napkins and gay crackers. Matron and Commandant read the greetings and messages from friends near and afar, after the traditional lunch with all the trimmings.

Came the evening, Matron and Commandant were with us to take part

in the Play-reading "Hippo Dancing" by Robert Morley. I think Robert Morley has a rival in Commandant with his interpretation of the part! Matron Hallett, as his wife, sported a French accent and rallied to his badgering admirably. Miss Feaver, with her usual aplomb, as Mother, tried to keep the peace and treated him as a naughty child.

Our Liftman, Mr. John Bingham, was his so-called friend, although he raised his blood pressure on several occasions. We welcomed two first time readers, Mrs. Exley, V.A.D., as the maid, and Mr. Bob Doyle, Orderly, as the son. Both did extremely well and we shall hope to hear them again. In all an enjoyable evening with plenty of laughter.

What a surprise we get each year with the Boxing Night Fancy Dress Dance! The theme was a "Song Title" and we had a charming judge in Miss Jean Anderson of "The Brothers" T.V. serial. She really had a shock being her first visit,



and had a hard task to choose winners, as everyone was deserving.

The Winners were as follows:

Mrs. M. Stanway "Singing in the Rain"  
Mrs. Wright, V.A.D. "I'm one of the Ruins"  
Miss Bergstrand, V.A.D. "Hearts and Flowers"  
Miss Happstadius, V.A.D. "The Sting"  
Mrs. Marshall, V.A.D. "Buttons and Bows"  
Mrs. Biggs, V.A.D. "South American Joe"  
Miss Toland, V.A.D. "Sheik's Lady" with P. Cryan "Sheik of Araby"  
Miss Roffey, V.A.D. and J. Langley "A Couple of Swells"  
L. May "Three o'clock in the morning"  
M. Corbettis "Bare Necessities"  
E. Daniels "Baby Face"  
F. Harris "Nursie, Come over Here"  
J. Sugden "So Tired"  
R. Sandiford "Shepherd of the Hills"

Much needed refreshment followed the Parade and Judging and the Bar was a popular sortie in the Handicraft Room.

A quiet day Friday, with a Drive to Gibby's, Polegate, and in the evening a "Bigger Bingo", more money and a prize with each round. The Domino Tournament was a close game, with Blodwyn Simon, Harry Dakin and Tommy Raybone sharing the prize.

Sunday night we had a full house for "Joan and her Two Blind Mice"—she'd lost one, Winston Holmes, he went away for Christmas. Bob Osborne and Ron Smith completed the trio and gave their usual excellent concert, full of mirth and song. Ron Smith invited a special guest, Babs Banyard, who played the piano and sang with great charm and she was joined by her husband in a harmony duet. We really appreciate all our Christmas entertainers, when we know they are so busy with concerts at this time of year. A good number visited the Brighton and Hove Operatic Society's Pantomime, "The Sleeping Beauty" and pronounced it a great Christmas Show.

Another sad note during the Christmas was the sudden death of John Beach who had been with us nearly four years as a Sick Bay Orderly. As Padre said at the Church Service, the drugs he had been taking for Parkinson's Disease had weakened his heart over the years.

The festivities came towards a close New Year's Eve with a Dance. How delighted we were to have Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme with us and what sports

## Designs Abroad

by R. L. Hazan

"Have you got the tickets and passports?"  
"You checked them four times yesterday"  
"Have you remembered your mink jacket"?

"It's under the sewing machine"

"How silly of me . . . you always keep it there. What about the tin opener?"

"It's at the bottom of the baby food bag"

"Yes, of course darling, an ideally accessible place . . ."

"My God, we've forgotten the baby"

A familiar conversation, which had been repeated five times in the past four years, though without reference to coat or baby.

## by Hoppercraft

We were about to set off across a Channel, lashed by the worst storms in twenty years; an ominous start perhaps. But all turned out well, the sun shone, and the wind slept, exhausted by its efforts of the previous week. We were to avail ourselves of that mode of transport seemingly designed with the handicapped in mind; the Hovercraft, or, as in answer to the five years old's question "How did the frog cross the Channel? By Hoppercraft". A quick closing down of the hearing aids excludes the ear piercing scream of these craft. And since

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## Kemp Town Notes—continued

they proved to be taking part in the dancing and the games. There was a big welcome for Mrs. Dacre and friend joining in with us all, with a glass of punch and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" we greeted 1975 hopefully, telling ourselves that things cannot possibly be as bad as we are led to believe.

New Year's Day and a special lunch with Dr. O'Hara's annual welcome speech to us all, he stressed we must refrain from emphasising the bad things and extend an affectionate feeling to all.

All at Pearson House send greetings to every St. Dunstaner and look forward to meeting those we've not seen for two years at Ian Fraser House when it re-opens, we hope, in the near future.



nobody can see through the spray covered windows anyway, the St. Dunstaner experiences the rare sensation of equality, if not superiority, over his fellow passengers. Later that day, Mons, Belgium, probably well known to many a St. Dunstaner, had claimed another victim.

The removers had made such a thorough job of the departure from our Army quarter, that our new inventory had to be increased by: Chairs, Dining for the use of; Ladder, step missing, pairs, one; A wooden tray; even Mother-in-law's knitting had not been spared, though we failed to find Mother-in-law herself in the back of the van. We had also gained a sixteen piece wardrobe, courtesy of Woodworm and Co. Ltd. Before us lay the problems of town flat dwelling.

### **A Matter of Brains**

Waste disposal is a matter of brains, brawn and bags. Upon waking you must try and work out the day of the week; not always easy at 7 a.m. On Mondays and Fridays, 'wet' rubbish is placed outside the front door by 8.30 a.m. On Wednesdays, glass and bottles. Pieces of paper may be dropped down a chute provided they are postage stamp size. Our first attempt with the chute caused us some concern. Instead of the rubbish dropping into the bowels of the block, it appeared to come back up the chute; there was a blockage. Failing all this, you can walk up and down six flights of stairs, a better teacher than any book on 'How to improve your memory'.

### **Rubbish Fumes**

Overcome by fumes from rubbish awaiting collection in the hallway, and once used to the noise below of the traffic, you open the window for a breath of fresh air. This is done by gripping the handle at the bottom of the window, and pushing it away from you. The first assault of icy cold draught is followed closely by a sharp crack on the head; you have forgotten the top half of the window opens inwards.

Reeling from the blow, you head outside for the lift. This demands total concentration. You must remember to exit the

### **GOLDEN JUBILEE CLOCKS**

When these clocks were issued, it was understood that their maintenance was to be the responsibility of St. Dunstaners. Nevertheless, the Men's Supplies Dept. have, in the past, arranged for repairs when clocks were sent to Headquarters. It is regretted that, due to the present shortage of skilled labour in the London area, this service is no longer possible. In any case, it is inadvisable to send this type of clock through the post, because of the delicate nature of the mechanism.

If any difficulty is encountered in finding a local clock repairer, please contact the Men's Supplies Dept., and we will make the necessary enquiries.

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### **B.A. DEGREE**

*Tom Taylor* of Preston, Lancs., has been studying with the Open University, and he has now obtained his B.A. Degree in the Arts and Social Sciences. He now intends to continue to study for an Honours Degree.

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### **Designs Abroad—continued**

opposite end from which you entered; it can be embarrassing trying to open a way through a brick wall. Nor are you allowed to slouch, for only the lift shaft has doors, not the lift itself.

Thirty yards to the left of the front entrance you come upon some cross-roads which put russian roulette on a par with a Monday night bingo session at Pearson House. Bearing in mind my wife is driving on the right (hopefully), in order to turn left, she must first turn right, while watching three sets of traffic lights, four streams of cars, giving way on the right, and has my lipstick smudged . . . ? If that sounds complicated on paper, just try sitting in the passenger seat. Too daunted by the prospect of these cross-roads, you can turn right and head for the town centre instead. The town architects have planned an excellent obstacle course; pavements are narrow, twisting and cobbled, with curbs sometimes only a few inches high. But if you can find your way there, they tell me the chips are still very good.



# CLUB NEWS

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## BRIGHTON

At the Brighton Club meeting on Friday, 10th January, tributes to Lord Fraser were paid by Ginger Scott, representing First War St. Dunstaners and Ted Frearson for Second War men. All Club members, wives and friends expressed their sincere sympathy to Lady Fraser.

*TED FREARSON*

## LONDON

On Thursday, 19th December, 1974, there was a large attendance at the London Club. After our Domino Session the high spot of the entertainment that evening was our Christmas Party. There was singing and dancing and the seasonal spirit seemed to pervade everywhere. It was evident that many of our members and their wives had been polishing up their steps for some time for such a special occasion as this.

Among the gaily decorated Club Rooms our regulars spent a very happy evening when laughter was long and spirits were high. For the additional festive cheer such as the serving of drinks, sausage rolls and Christmas cake and other party delicacies sampled, our thanks must go to Mrs. Douglas, wife of our St. Dunstaner, Les Douglas, who is always such a willing helper at all occasions in the Club.

We remembered our many absent friends, and toasted them accordingly. A large box of chocolates had been presented for the occasion by the London Branch of the Wine and Food Society, and having been raffled off was won by Mrs. Sheehan.

The Christmas Domino Prize winners were:

- 1 **W. Miller**  
**J. Padley**
- 2 **J. Lynch**  
**J. Majchrowicz**

Our members wended their respective ways homeward, tired but happy, unaware of the sorrow the coming days would bring.

Winners of our Football Pontoon Sweepstake ending on Saturday, 11th January, after a run of six weeks was jointly shared by **Mrs. Dickerson, Mrs. Hancock, Mrs. Lynch and Mrs. King.** Their teams being Sunderland, Tottenham, Bristol Rovers and Ipswich, respectively. The "Booby" prize was shared by Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Sheehan with Notts Forest and Fulham.

*W. MILLER*

## MIDLAND

On 21st December we held our annual Christmas Dinner at the Austin branch of the Royal British Legion. The branch standard was flown at half mast to honour the memory of our Chairman, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, who died on 19th December.

Before we sat down to dinner, homage was paid in respect of Lord Fraser and also to our club colleague, Bert Lane, who died in the early hours of 19th December.

Our sincere sympathy goes to Lady Fraser and her family in their very sad loss and also to Miss Irene Hewitt, cousin of Bert Lane, and his nearest relative.

We were very sorry not to have Miss Newbold with us as usual but she was not well enough to attend.

We had an excellent meal which was enjoyed by all and our sincere thanks go to the steward and stewardess, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Swinnerton, for doing us so proud.

We also thank the committee for making us so welcome and allowing us the facilities of the club for this event and the entertainment which followed during the evening.

It was very nice indeed to have Guy and Sallie with us once again and we all hope to see them at future meetings.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary*



# BRIDGE NOTES

## 1974 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday afternoon December 14th was the date of the final fixture on the St. Dunstons Bridge Club Calendar for 1974. This was one of those afternoons when members of the Bridge Club have the opportunity and pleasure to invite their stalwart friends and wives, who have helped by supporting the club throughout the past year, to participate in a Bridge Drive. This meant that we were able to make up fourteen tables.

The drive proceeded under the capable direction of Roy Armstrong and the winners were as follows:

- 1st S. Webster and Miss M. Byrne  
2nd R. Goding and Mr. Deeley (Snr.)  
3rd R. Armstrong and Mr. J. Armstrong  
4th A. Caldwell and Mrs. M. Sterrett

The prizes were presented by Lady Arrowsmith. After a most entertaining speech by Sir Edwin Arrowsmith and an eloquent vote of thanks by our Bridge Captain, Robert Evans, which was heartily endorsed by us all, a bouquet was presented to Lady Arrowsmith by Vi Delaney. Vera Kemmish kindly presented on behalf of us all a lovely pot plant to Mrs. Flora Smith as a token of appreciation for her help over the past year.

About this time other members of the London Club with their wives joined us for the Christmas tea, and what a hearty spread, complete with crackers, that was. A raffle was then held, Joyce Pringle officiating, to decide which of the many beautifully wrapped parcels each St. Dunstaner would receive.

Later many of us found our way down to the gaily festooned lounge where we continued our festivities in a more relaxed manner with singing and dancing, thanks to our ever thoughtful Club Steward Norman Smith and his charming wife Flora. A truly happy day was had by all and our thanks went out to everybody that had made it possible.

JIM PADLEY

And in the morning . . .

there was sorrow in the morning,  
When the dawn came slowly creeping,  
Softly grey and softly lifting,  
Like our sorrow, like our weeping;

Last night near a piano playing,  
Sound of Christmas carols singing,  
But in a chapel there was praying,  
Where at rest he was laying;

In the street and in the houses,  
there was laughter that last evening,  
We did not know that he was leaving  
We did not know

we should be grieving . . .

F.S.

The first Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 4th January. The results were as follows:

W. Lethbridge and W. Claydon	72
M. Clements and R. Bickley	72
R. Goding and A. Dodgson	65
A. Smith and J. Simmons	59
R. Fullard and W. Burnett	57
S. Webster and W. Scott	56
J. Whitcombe and E. Bedford	56

## HARROGATE

Notice is hereby given to members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club that the Annual Harrogate Bridge Week will take place from Saturday, 13th to the 20th September, 1975.

Provisional hotel accommodation has been reserved, but it is essential that those interested should let me know as soon as possible if they intend to come. Due to the present situation, the Dirlton Hotel cannot hold these provisional bookings for very long.

I should like to stress to those attending that they should observe, if they wish to make the matches on a competitive basis, the usual rules enforced in every Bridge Club. No talking should take place in between play which, besides interfering with the concentration of some of our players, also upsets our opponents, already handicapped by having to call out every card played.

P. NUYENS  
Secretary



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From Alan Dean, Melville, Western Australia**

I have noticed in recent editions of the *Review* that one of the many topics covered is the occupations taken up by St. Dunstaners.

As I am an ex-St. Dunstaner and as there seems to be a scarcity of news from "down under", I thought I would tell you how I occupy my time.

I am married with two children, Phillip nearly 8 and Peter aged 5.

I attended St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, from 1953-1954, where I trained for Engineering. Upon my return to Australia I obtained employment with a large motor company. I stayed with them for 10 years but I found the work very boring. With the help of the Repatriation Department, I went back to school and reached University Entrance level.

After many months of unsuccessfully trying to obtain interesting work, I managed to obtain a position with a firm

of Personnel Consultants, but this proved a failure as one of the necessities was to be able to give a visual appraisal.

Then my wife, Patricia, bought a small wooden motor truck for our son. After examining it closely, I thought I could make a better one myself. After making the prototype, which had so many mistakes that it seemed impossible to make any more, I started a second.

The second one turned out fairly well and was duly presented to Phillip. A friend saw it and asked if I could make him one. I did and then someone else wanted one. From that it started to grow, like Topsy.

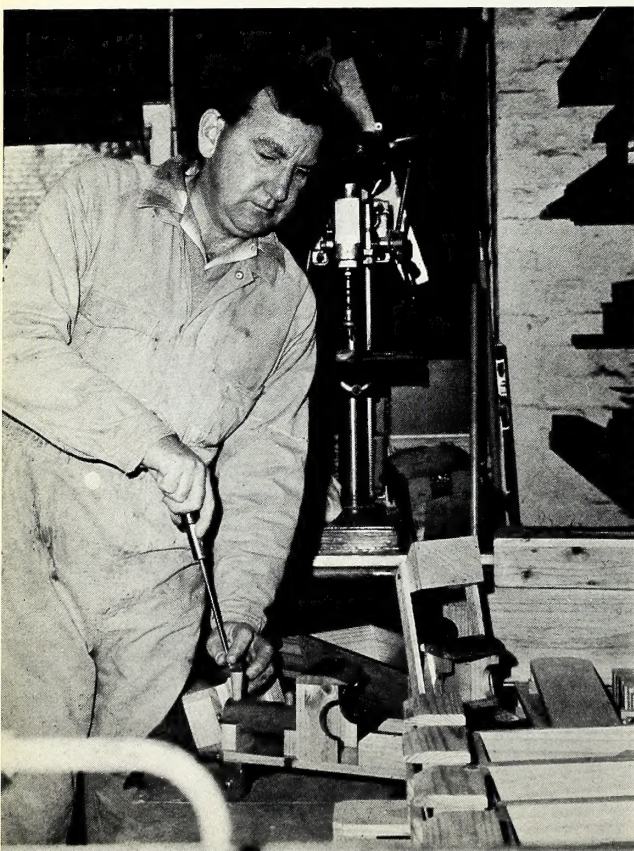
I made my first toy in 1967 and each year I have increased the range and at present I am making 17 different models. I started in Melbourne and when we moved to Perth last year I had to begin again here. However, we are finding that the toys are being well received here and I am kept busy. I do all the building, while my wife and father-in-law attend to the painting.

Our main market is kindergartens and child-minding centres. We have sent toys all over the Australian Continent and even as far as Fiji. We have not advertised our toys, relying upon them to sell themselves, and so far this has proved successful.

I have a large workshop at home in the garden and have it equipped with the machinery I need. This includes a circular saw, sander and dust extractor. There is also a large bench drill and a picture framing saw, the original of which I was presented with while attending St. Dunstan's. These are the main units of my equipment and, of course, I have a good selection of hand tools. For repetition work I use scrap wood to make jigs and with the aid of a couple of clamps to hold them in place they do a fine job and the cost involved is minimal.

The designs are my own and I keep all measurements and designs in my head.

Before being blinded I could not nail two pieces of wood together and was not interested in carpentry until I went to St. Dunstan's. There, in the "Chippy





Shop", I created a somewhat imperfect tea tray and a not-so-bad lamp stand! This was the beginning of my interest in timber and I have found it most rewarding.

Although I shall never become rich, I find that my time is fully occupied and there is a great deal of satisfaction in having one's efforts considered worthy of buying. It has been said that people purchase our products out of sympathy. However, as the majority of our customers do not know that I am blind, this argument does not stand up.

I would like to end this letter by sending my very good wishes to all associated with St. Dunstan's.

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**From Alf Bradley, Northwood Hills, Middlesex**

**Ways of Life 26 ... Indeed!**

'—a Multi-sex Society'

Seemed most extravagant to me.

Line one, and on page twenty-sex,

I wondered what I might read next.

This little rhyme is not ill meant,

Accept it in the spirit sent,

For Dennis it would seem to me

We have a slight affinity.

For years we too have taught the young,

To work and play by Christian rule,

We call ourselves Adventurers' Club,

But once were known as Sunday school.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**William James Chapman** of Baldock, Herts., who joined us in December, 1974. He is a widower who served in the First World War.

**John Mingard** of Cleethorpes, Lincs., who joined us in September, 1974, served in the Royal Artillery in Egypt during the Second World War. He is married with one son.

**Harry Morris** of Bedford, joined St. Dunstan's in December, 1974. He served in the First World War and was wounded at Hill 60. He is married with two children.

**Reg Palmer** of Southery, Downham Market, Norfolk, joined St. Dunstan's in December 1974. He served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War and is married.

**Isaac Pellington** of Stoke-on-Trent, came to St. Dunstan's in December, 1974. He fought in Italy in the Second World War and is married.

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## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1630*

**The Day of the Jackal**

by Frederick Forsyth

*Read by David Broomfield*

*Reading Time 15¾ hours*

This is the now-celebrated story of the attempt to assassinate President de Gaulle. I found it so utterly convincing that I had to keep reminding myself that it was a work of fiction.

After several abortive attempts on the life of the President, the OAS leaders decide to enlist the services of a contract hire killer, acknowledged master of his craft, an Englishman, code-named The Jackal.

Terms are agreed and with infinite care and patience The Jackal begins his preparations.

The police have a stroke of luck when they capture an OAS man. They torture him and before he dies he gives them a slim lead (I do hope the French police aren't really like that ... are they?)

The hunt is on and the reader is taken through every twist and turn of the chase.

This is a superb tale, marvellously plotted and surely a classic of its type.

I am surprised however that no asterisk appears by the catalogue number denoting its possible unsuitability for family reading. On occasion The Jackal takes time off from preparing to kill de Gaulle. What he does with this free time is dealt with very graphically indeed. You have been warned!



## Welcome to St. Dunstons —continued

**Percy Gordon Peterson** of Waterlooville, Portsmouth, Hants., joined St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He served in the Essex Regiment during the First World War and was for some time a prisoner of war. He is married with a son and daughter, both of whom are married and he and Mrs. Peterson are now enjoying a quiet retirement.

**William Rowland** of Lambeth, London, S.W.2, came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He served in the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment during the First World War and was discharged from the Army as a result of injuries sustained in the battle of St. Quentin. In the Second World War he was a stretcher bearer with the Civil Defence and was injured by a bomb in 1940. He is married and has five grown-up children.

**Harold Smith** of Altrincham, Cheshire, joined St. Dunstan's on 31st December, 1974. He served with the Royal Engineers during the Second World War, and was wounded in Gibraltar. He is married.

**John Styles** of Southall, Middlesex, came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1974. He served in the First World War in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. He is married with three sons and two daughters, all married.

**William Wood** of Ashby-de-la-Zouch joined St. Dunstan's in November 1974. He served with the East Surrey and then the Leicestershire Regiment during the First World War and was wounded on the Somme in 1918. He is married with four daughters.

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### H.M.S. DAEDALUS Diary Note

Camp week this year is from Friday, 15th August to Saturday, 23rd August. This is the 30th Camp and we all say "thank you" so much to the Royal Navy.  
AVIS SPURWAY

## FAMILY NEWS

### Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. John Tyrrell* of Oxford, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 22nd December, 1974.

### Diamond Wedding

Very many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sayers* of Birchington, Kent, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 26th December, 1974. They have a large family and Mrs. Sayer's mother who is 97, is also alive.

### Grandfathers

#### Congratulations to:

*Ray Benson* of Farnborough, Hants, who is pleased to announce the birth of a grand-daughter, Samantha Jane, on 20th November, 1974, to his daughter Lora and son-in-law. Samantha is Ray's first grandchild.

*Leonard W. Cook* of Swindon, Wilts., who is delighted to announce the safe arrival of another grandson, Robert James, born on 21st November, 1974, to his daughter Jean, and her husband.

*Dick Jones* of Port Talbot, Glamorgan, is pleased to announce that his daughter, Megan, gave birth to a boy, who is to be called, Darren, on 12th November, 1974. This is Megan's second child and a brother for Steven.

*George Miller* of Sale Moor, Cheshire, who is pleased to announce the birth of a grand-daughter, Faye, born on 17th December, 1974, to his daughter Sonia and his son-in-law.

*James Miller* of Glasgow, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of a grandson born to his youngest son, Alex and daughter-in-law, Susan. Andrew Alexander arrived on 14th November, 1974.



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*"Bob" Osborne* of Saltdean, Sussex, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild. A girl, Louise, was born on 28th November, 1974, to his son, Keith and his daughter-in-law, Lynn. Louise is the first great-grandchild to Mrs. E. Walch. Mrs. Walch is Joan Osborne's mother and is the widow of our late St. Dunstaner, Joe Walch.

*Tom Taylor* of Leyland, Preston, Lancs., is pleased to announce the safe arrival of a grand-daughter, Rachael Barbara, born to his daughter Susan, on 16th November, 1974.

## Great Grandfather

Many congratulations to:

*Ernest Alexander* of Bournemouth, is very proud to announce the birth of his third great grandchild, Warwick Alexander, who was born on 13th December, 1974.

## Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Reginald Edwards*, of Nutley, formerly of Bognor Regis, mourns the death of his wife, Mrs. Maud Elizabeth Edwards, who died on Christmas Day, 1974.

*Harry (Johnny) Cope* of Newcastle-under-Lyme, who mourns the death of his wife, Irene, who died suddenly on 5th January, 1975, and to his two daughters, Joy and Mary on the sad loss of their mother.

*Arthur James Porter* of Wickford, Essex, mourns the death of his wife, Clara Florence Porter, in St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, on 9th January, 1975.

*Alva E. Tucker* of Banwell, Somerset, on the death of his wife, Mrs. Edith May Tucker, on 12th January, 1975.

*William Watkinson* of Croston, nr. Preston, Lancs., who mourns the death of his wife, Mrs. Mary Anne Watkinson, on 15th December, 1974.

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## In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Joseph Ellis Batty.** *8th Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment*

Joseph Ellis Batty of Killamarsh, nr. Sheffield, died at his home on 14th December, 1974. He was 78 years of age.

He enlisted in the 8th Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment and served with them from March 1917 until February 1918. He was wounded in France in 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1919.

He trained in basketry and netting work, and for some years ran a small basket shop in Killamarsh. He gave up the shop in 1924, but continued to work at home in basket making and rug making. He also bred Angora rabbits and a few years later, took up poultry farming. In later years he and his wife found great pleasure in looking after their garden. He enjoyed many holidays at our Brighton Homes and attended the Yorkshire Reunions over the years.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ruth Batty, and his son and his daughter and their families.

**William Arthur Bramson.** *Pioneer Corps*

William Arthur Bramson of South Woodingdean, Sussex, died on 28th December, 1974. He was 79 years of age.



He enlisted in the Pioneer Corps in August 1940 and served with them until his discharge a few months later. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1948.

He trained at Ovingdean and in 1949 he and his wife took over a shop in Northampton and continued successfully in business until pressure of work proved rather a strain on their health and they decided to retire in 1959.

On retirement they moved to Sussex where they enjoyed many happy years and during this time they were able to visit a married daughter in Canada.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lucy May Bramson, their two married sons, Edward and William, and married daughters, Violet and Dorothy.

**William Nelson Fester. 1st Cape Company (South Africa)**

William Nelson Fester of Gravesend, Kent, died on 28th December, 1974, at the age of 75.

He enlisted in the 1st Cape Company (South Africa) in September 1916 and served with them until his discharge in November 1917. He did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1963. Prior to coming to England from South Africa in July 1962, he was a foreman in the Cape Town Post Office, South Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. Fester settled happily in Kent and several of their seven adult children living in various parts of the world were able to visit them, and a daughter-in-law from South Africa arrived recently to help Mrs. Fester nurse her husband.

During his life time he visited our Brighton homes frequently and enjoyed his hobbies of basket-making, gardening and greenhouse work. They both have made many friends in this country.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dinah Fester and her family.

**John Reginald King. Royal Navy**

John Reginald King of London, N.19, died on 25th December, 1974, at the age of 55 years.

He enlisted in the Royal Navy in June 1939 and served with them until 1941. He did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1967. He was already employed by a London Borough Council when invited to become a member of St. Dunstan's and consequently there was no need for him to undergo any special training. He was able to continue with his work and take a keen interest in associations connected with his day to day work until unfortunately his health broke down and he had to be admitted to hospital.

After treatment in an intensive care unit, he returned home in time to spend Christmas with his wife and family but he had a relapse and died suddenly on Christmas Day.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doreen Rose King, a married daughter, Julie, and her husband and their two children. He also leaves his mother, who lived with him and his wife for some time.

**Arnold Jameson. 1st World War. Royal Irish Rifles. 2nd World War. Royal Ulster Rifles.**

Arnold Jameson of Cregagh, Belfast, Northern Ireland, died at his home on 6th January, 1975. He was 82 years of age.

He enlisted in the 1st World War in the Royal Irish Rifles and was wounded in the leg in 1918. He enlisted in the Royal Ulster Rifles in the 2nd World War and suffered a loss of sight as a result of an injury in 1941. It was not, however, until much later in life that his sight failed completely and he came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1974.

He had, by this time, retired for many years and lived with his son and daughter-in-law. He kept reasonably well in health until just before Christmas when sadly he became seriously ill. He was nursed at home by his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Jameson, and it was there he passed away.

He leaves a son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Jameson.

**Albert Charles Lane. Machine Gun Corps**

Albert Charles Lane of Billesley, Birmingham, died on 19th December, 1974, whilst staying at Pearson House. He was 81 years of age.

He enlisted in the Machine Gun Corps in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. Although he was wounded in 1916, it was not until many years later that he finally lost his sight, and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1964.

Mrs. Lane had been tragically killed in a motor accident the previous year but he lived alone, managing very well with the help of neighbours. He was a very keen gardener and always had a beautiful display of flowers. Sadly in more recent years his health deteriorated and he moved into a small flat as he was no longer able to manage the house on his own.

He attended some of our Birmingham Reunions, and enjoyed many holidays at our Brighton homes. Mr. Lane had gone to Pearson House for a period of convalescence to include the Christmas holiday but unfortunately he became ill.

He leaves his cousin, Miss Irene Hewitt.

**John Quinn. Royal Artillery**

John Quinn, of London, S.E.19, died on 9th January, 1975, at the age of 71 years.

He was already in the Territorial Army at the outbreak of the 2nd World War and served with the Royal Artillery until his discharge in 1941.

On leaving the army he worked for some time as a lift attendant but in 1961 his health deteriorated seriously and he had to retire. He did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1971 and unfortunately, owing to ill health he was house-bound but he enjoyed a happy retirement with his three young children. He was able to spend a brief holiday at Ovingdean in 1972.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Joan Quinn and their three children, Catherine, Cornealius and Anthony, and two sons by a previous marriage.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**MARCH**





*Charles Stafford, centre, St. Dunstan's Standard Bearer, with Eddie Robinson, National Standard Bearer, and, right, Rex Williamson, Headquarters Standard Bearer of the Royal British Legion.*

*On facing page: a facsimile of the cover of the Order of Service.*

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**FRONT COVER:** *St. Dunstaners and escorts, members of the staff, friends of Lord Fraser from every walk of life crowd through the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey for the service of Thanksgiving for Lord Fraser's life and work.*



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

**SUPPLEMENT MARCH 1975**

## **IMPROVEMENTS IN WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS**

*Mrs. Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, presented to Parliament proposals to give effect to the increases in Retirement Pensions and other National Insurance Benefits announced in Parliament. Details of the proposed increases and of the improvements to be made in War Pensions and in some of the Supplementary Allowances, are given in this leaflet. The White Paper has not yet been published and whilst there is little doubt but that the following particulars will be confirmed, they must be treated as provisional at the time of going to print.*

### **WAR PENSIONS**

#### **Basic Pension**

The Pension for 100% disablement is to be increased by £2.60 a week, and proportionately for lower assessments, so that a private soldier with a 100% disablement pension will receive £19.00 a week instead of £16.40 a week as at present.

#### **Constant Attendance Allowance**

A St. Dunstaner with guiding vision at present receiving £3.30 will receive £3.80 a week. The rate for total blindness which is at present £6.60 will be increased to £7.60. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who now has £9.90 a week will be entitled to £11.40 a week, and a St. Dunstaner with exceptionally severe disabilities, such as the loss of both hands, additional to blindness who at present receives £13.20, will receive £15.20 a week.

#### **Comforts Allowance**

There is to be an increase in this Allowance from £2.80 to £3.20 a week for the totally blind and for the Unemployability Supplement pensioner, and from £1.40 to £1.60 a week for the pensioner with guiding vision.

#### **Unemployability Supplement**

This Supplement which is payable to those War Pensioners who by reason of their pensionable disability are unem-

ployable, is to be increased from £10.75 to £12.40 a week, and any family allowances which might be payable with this Supplement will also be increased as follows for the 100% Pensioner:—

Wife or other adult dependant:

from £6.50 to £7.40

First Child

£5.28 to £6.03

Second Child and Subsequent Children

£4.28 to £4.52

#### **Invalidity Allowance**

This allowance, payable to those War Pensioners who are awarded the Unemployability Supplement prior to attaining the age of 60 (55 for woman), has also been increased. Where the incapacity for work begins before the age of 35 the allowance is increased from £2.05 to £2.40, where the onset of the incapacity falls between the ages of 35 to 45 the allowance is increased to £1.50 per week, instead of £1.30 per week, and where the onset occurs between 45 and 60 (55 for women) the new rate is 75p per week instead of 65p.

#### **Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance and Severely Disabled Occupational Allowance**

Both these Allowances are to be increased this year to £7.60 and £3.80 a week respectively.



### **Clothing Allowance**

There is to be a small increase in this Allowance (payable where there is exceptional wear and tear on clothing because of an amputation or for some other special reason) to a maximum of £29.00 a year. (Lower Rate £19.00).

### **Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation**

This allowance which is paid in exceptional cases only to a very small number of St. Dunstaners who receive less than 100% pensions is to be increased from up to £6.56 a week to up to £7.60 per week.

Examples which may help St. Dunstaners to appreciate how the increases affect them personally may be found on page 3, but if there are any difficulties, will they please get in touch with Mr. L. Slade, our Pensions Officer, at Headquarters.

### **War Widows**

The standard rate of pension for a War Widow aged 40 or over, or under that age with children, is increased from £13.00 per week to £15.00 per week. The Rent

Allowance for War Widows with children is increased from up to £5.00 per week to £5.80 per week. The age allowances for elderly Widows are to be increased to £1.50 for those ladies between 65 and 70 years of age and to £3.00 for those ladies over 70 years of age.

The increased rates of pension and allowances will operate as from the first pay day in the week commencing 6th April, 1975 which means that the effective date of payment in the majority of cases should be Wednesday, the 9th April, 1975.

### **Industrial Injuries Act**

The 100% Disablement Pension payable under this Act to employees disabled in the course of their employment is to be increased from £16.40 a week to £19.00 a week with proportionate increases for lower assessments and some of the allowances payable with the Disablement Pension, which are very much in line with those payable to War Pensioners, are also to be increased.

The Industrial Pension for widows which is at present £10.55 a week is to be raised to £12.15.

## **NATIONAL INSURANCE**

The standard flat rate of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits will go up from £8.60 to £9.80 a week for single people and from £13.90 to £15.90 for married couples.

Retirement Pensions are to be increased for the single person to £11.60 a week and for the married couples to £18.50.

The Widow's Pension will also be increased from £10.00 to £11.60 a week.

Other proposed National Insurance Benefits improvements include Invalidity Benefit, Dependency Allowances for Children, Widowed Mother's Allowance, Guardian's Allowance, Attendance Allowance, and Maternity Allowance.



## EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

### Employable

	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
<b>Totally Blind</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	16.40	19.00
Attendance Allowance	6.60	7.60
Comforts Allowance	2.80	3.20
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£26.68	£30.68
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	16.40	19.00
Attendance Allowance	3.30	3.80
Comforts Allowance	1.40	1.60
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£21.98	£25.28
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate of Attendance Allowance

	£	£
Basic Pension	16.40	19.00
Attendance Allowance	13.20	15.20
Comforts Allowance	2.80	3.20
Special Occupational Allowance	3.30	3.80
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance	6.60	7.60
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£43.18	£49.68
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Unemployable

	£	£
<b>Totally Blind</b>		
Basic Pension	16.40	19.00
Attendance Allowance	6.60	7.60
Unemployability Supplement	10.75	12.40
Comforts Allowance	2.80	3.20
Wife's Allowance	6.50	7.40
Allowance for First Child	5.28	6.03
*Invalidity Allowance	1.30	1.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£49.63	£57.13
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	16.40	19.00
Attendance Allowance	3.30	3.80
Unemployability Supplement	10.75	12.40
Comforts Allowance	2.80	3.20
Wife's Allowance	6.50	7.40
Allowance for First Child	5.28	6.03
*Invalidity Allowance	1.30	1.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£46.33	£53.33
	<hr/>	<hr/>

\* Based on the assumption that the St. Dunstaner is between the ages of 35 and 45 when first drawing Unemployability Supplement.

If a St. Dunstaner is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £4.20 a week.



\* Based on the assumption that the St Dunstan's is between the ages of 35 and 45 when first drawing Unemployment Supplement.  
If a St Dunstan's is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £4.20 a week.

Totally Blind		Unemployment	
*Invalidity Allowance	1-30	1-30	1-30
Allowance for First Child	5-28	5-28	5-28
Wife's Allowance	6-50	6-50	6-50
Comforts Allowance	2-80	2-80	2-80
Unemployment Supplement	10-75	10-75	10-75
Attendance Allowance	3-20	3-20	3-20
Basic Pension	16-40	16-40	16-40
<b>£49-63</b>		<b>£49-63</b>	
Guiding Vision		Guiding Vision	
*Invalidity Allowance	1-30	1-30	1-30
Allowance for First Child	5-28	5-28	5-28
Wife's Allowance	6-50	6-50	6-50
Comforts Allowance	2-80	2-80	2-80
Unemployment Supplement	10-75	10-75	10-75
Attendance Allowance	3-20	3-20	3-20
Basic Pension	16-40	16-40	16-40
<b>£57-13</b>		<b>£57-13</b>	

Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate of Attendance		Unemployment	
Child's Allowance	0-38	0-38	0-38
Wife's Allowance	6-50	6-50	6-50
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance	6-50	6-50	6-50
Special Occupational Allowance	3-30	3-30	3-30
Comforts Allowance	2-80	2-80	2-80
Attendance Allowance	13-20	13-20	13-20
Basic Pension	16-40	16-40	16-40
Allowance	13-00	13-00	13-00
<b>£49-68</b>		<b>£49-68</b>	

Totally Blind		Unemployment	
Child's Allowance	0-38	0-38	0-38
Wife's Allowance	6-50	6-50	6-50
Comforts Allowance	2-80	2-80	2-80
Attendance Allowance	3-20	3-20	3-20
Basic Pension	16-40	16-40	16-40
Guiding Vision	13-00	13-00	13-00
<b>£38-88</b>		<b>£38-88</b>	

# EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

Employee



# WESTMINSTER ABBEY



## SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

for the Life and Work of

IAN FRASER

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE,  
C.H., C.B.E.

1897—1974



Tuesday  
4th February 1975  
at 12 noon





## NOW LET US GIVE THANKS...

Above Westminster Abbey the Union Flag flew at half mast. Inside, the vaulted stonework rang with the clear notes of the Last Post sounded by Trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. For the congregation of some 2,000 people this moment, towards the end of the Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale was an emotional one. Yet in many ways this cold, grey morning of 4th February was not a sad one.

There was the feeling that this service was being held in the setting which Lord Fraser would have wished, close to the Houses of Parliament he knew so well. There was the knowledge that among those gathered to do him honour were many whose presence he would have valued most highly.

Lady Fraser, with members of her family around her; Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman, with Mrs. Garnett-Orme and Col. Sir Michael Ansell, Vice-Chairman, with Members of St. Dunstan's Council.

H.M. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd attended as did Mr. Edward Heath with eminent Parliamentarians of both Houses who knew Lord Fraser in the Lords and as Sir Ian Fraser, M.P.

Ambassadors were there and High Commissioners with other members of the diplomatic corps; those who knew and worked with him in the blind world in this country and internationally; those who were his colleagues in business and one whose presence was a link over nearly sixty years, Brigadier A. J. Hardy, representing the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, Lord Fraser's old regiment.

The people whose presence he would have valued most after his family, were some 600 St. Dunstaners with their escorts who, not long before, had descended from their motor coaches or other transport to form two long and slowly moving lines of people converg-

*St. Dunstaners, Stewart Spence, in formal highland dress, entering the Abbey.*





*Our new Chairman, with Mrs. Garnett-Orme, enters the Abbey among his St. Dunstaners.*

ing on the Great West Door to take their places in the magnificent setting of the Abbey, decorated that morning with flowers, and appropriately, Flanders poppies.

In a pool of golden light around the altar the main parts of the ceremony were conducted by the Dean of Westminster. Through the lamp-lit choir and out to the grey areas of the nave and transepts voices were raised in Lord Fraser's favourite hymns, *To Be A Pilgrim*, *Lead Kindly Light* and *Onward Christian Soldiers*. Over all watched the marble statues of the Abbey.

Early in the service three Standards, the Union Flag, Royal British Legion H. O. Standard and St. Dunstan's Standard were carried to the Sacrarium to be received by the Chaplain of Westminster Abbey. St. Dunstan's standard bearer was Charles Stafford, of Kings Langley, Herts.

Mr. Christopher McDonald, a grandson of Lord Fraser, read the Lesson, Revelation XXI 1-7. The Address was given by Lord Redcliffe-Maud, Master of University College, Oxford, High Bailiff of Westminster and, of course, a Member of

St. Dunstan's Council. Robed and speaking from the pulpit, Lord Redcliffe-Maud's perceptive remarks obviously struck many chords with the congregation.

Prayers were led by the Precentor and Sacrist of Westminster Abbey, the time-honoured responses seeming particularly appropriate as were the special prayers: "We give thanks to thee for thy servant Ian, remembering his love of family life and friends, his steadfastness and courage in overcoming handicaps, his long years of public service and his work for St. Dunstan's and the Royal British Legion."

Finally the procession from the Abbey to the music of Franck's *Pièce héroïque* in the massive tones of the organ played by Douglas Guest, Organist and Master of the Choristers of Westminster Abbey and to the Abbey's bells. Truly not a Memorial Service but one of Thanksgiving. For it cannot be said of many men, as Lord Redcliffe-Maud said in his Address, "The world will never be quite the same as if Ian Fraser had not lived and learnt the mystery of the road of suffering."









*Lord and Lady Fraser on a visit to Morecambe in his Parliamentary constituency.*

Now, at eighteen, he must start to learn something quite new and appallingly difficult: the art of letting *other* people help *him*. He learnt it. And characteristically he went on at once to the next stage: the art of *helping* other people to help him. When we come to a road-crossing and there happens to be a stranger there, waiting like us for a break in the traffic, and he happens to be blind—don't ask "Can I lead you across?" Wiser, says Ian, to say "Let's cross the road together".

Then he goes on to talk about the crucial relationship between the handicapped person and his guide: "I find it best", he says, "to take hold of his or her arm, rather than have the guide take *my* arm. That means, you see, that you are always a few inches *behind*, and if a step is coming from the pavement down to the street, the guide will take the step a split second before you have to, and you're warned that it's coming".

Well, there we have the chief secret of his success story—and perhaps the first

thing which his friends want to thank God for this morning. He found the perfect guide. He fell in love, at first sound of her (to use his own words), with the girl who wore the smoothest and most beautiful kid gloves that he had ever felt. And she married him. *He* took *her* arm. For all his unquenchable instinct for leadership, he schooled himself to be always just a few inches behind. For all her infinite respect for him, she took each step a split second before he had to. And the consequence was (to quote his words again): they lived happily ever after.

She had been nurse, reader and guide to Sir Arthur Pearson, the Founder-Chairman of St. Dunstan's; so it was Sir Arthur from whom Ian Fraser inherited her. It was Sir Arthur too who gave Captain Fraser his first job on leaving hospital—and who died a few years later, to be succeeded by Captain Fraser, aged 24, as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. So thank God this morning for Sir Arthur Pearson: for the twin blessings that he





Lord and Lady Thorneycroft.

brought to Ian (his wife and his first job), and for the half-century of blessings that have followed for the rest of us.

When a brave thoroughbred steeple-chaser has a brave rider with highly sensitive hands, there's no stopping them. There was certainly no stopping the Frasers. One fence after another, regardless of the occasional stumble. There was the *personal* fence—Ian Fraser learning to do without sight, and instantly starting the life-long St. Dunstan's job of helping others to do without sight (he stayed Chairman till he died). Then, only a year later, the *political* fence—into the London County Council at 25, and into the House of Commons at 27, with 28 years ahead of him as an MP and sixteen more in the House of Lords; fighting for the ex-servicemen whatever Government was in office; with a leading role in establishing an independent British Broadcasting Corporation, and some splendid election fights in St. Pancras ("Don't you suffer from the delusion, my friend", he said to one heckler, "that I can't see right through you"). Then, when he loses an election in 1929 and looks round for another

fence to jump, he goes for the Inner Temple and a year later—over all the law exams and called to the Bar.

But no—instead of practising as a barrister (he would have become a QC and a judge in record time), back to the House of Commons and the B.B.C. And what next? Over the big business fence now, in Britain and South Africa, with directorships ahead of him and chairmanships galore. None of these posts, mark you, *because* he was blind but *because* he *beat* blindness, by ruthless self-discipline, by exploiting a marvellous memory, and by endless methodical work.

*How* did he achieve all this? Chiefly, I think, through the near perfect understanding between the two of them, the husband and the wife: that was the common factor in this astonishing series of successes, in private enterprise and so many kinds of public service. But what were the secrets of Ian's personal contribution to the partnership?

Well, he *laboured*, night and day, with a fierce concentration of courage and ambition. "There's no discouragement Shall make him once relent His first avowed intent". And that intent was to *help*.

### Giant temptations

"No foes shall stay his might, Though he with giants fight"; the giant temptations of self-pity, impatience, ill-temper, sleeplessness. He never stopped casting away these *works of darkness*, treating the giants in the path as fancies that must be made to flee away—and now they have fled.

But he not only cast away the works of darkness: he never stopped putting on the *armour of light*: the armour of compassion, hopefulness, zest for life. Of course he was deadly serious about any *work* he had to do. But he was also gay, un-pompous, light-hearted. He rejoiced in family life (and was pleased as Punch when his grandson got an Oxford doctorate). Wonderful parties they were when the Frasers entertained their friends—no fuss, but every detail meticulously planned. And he loved smoking room gossip (red, white *and* blue) in both Houses of Parliament, and especially with political opponents. He loved riding





A FEATHER IN HIS GLENGARRY.

"PUNCH," MARCH 7, '34.





*Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman, has a word with Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, Vice-Chairman, after the Service.*

*Mr. Nigel Pearson, Member of St. Dunstan's Council, who also represented his father, Sir Neville, our President.*



across the veld in the sunshine of South Africa. He taught himself fly-fishing in his later years, and loved that. He enjoyed a game of bridge (provided no-one tried signalling under the table). And he loved argument.

How right that the man who spoke of him in Cape Town Cathedral the other day was Colin Eglin, not only Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's South Africa (of which Ian was the President), but also leader in the South African Parliament of the Progressive Party (whose only parliamentary representative till recently was Helen Suzman and whose multi-racial policy is a long way left of Ian's). How right that Colin Eglin should describe "this beloved Rooinek" as "one of the greatest men of the century", and should confess that in the last few days, since being asked to speak at the memorial service, he had been "chuckling with Ian Fraser" and imagining him laughing at himself and saying "Well, that damned Progressive has had the last word after all!" And how right that other recent tribute from South Africa: an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Stellenbosch—the one Afrikaner University now distinguished by a growing liberal spirit.

### St. Dunstan's Top Priority

Five hundred years ago it was said of another great man, Sir Thomas More, what I say of Ian Fraser today: "As time requireth, a man of marvellous mirth and pastimes, and sometimes of a sad gravity". The gravity—the deadly seriousness—was there whenever it was needed, and that was most of the twenty-four hours. Of course it was St. Dunstan's and servicemen from all over the Commonwealth that got top priority. For Ian they were of a quite different order of importance from his business or political interests (and perhaps that was why he never became a Cabinet Minister).

He was never content with an achievement. "Lead, kindly Light"; yes, but "one step" was not enough for Ian: he *did* ask to see the distant scene. No one knew better than Ian the importance of the next step, but *one* step was never enough for him. His imagination was always peering ahead, and his realism





*Lord and Lady Fraser at the christening of their great grand-daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth.*

kept him constantly aware that new challenges would come—economic depression, mass unemployment, even another world war—so that money-raising and good husbandry for St. Dunstan's and the Royal British Legion must go on ceaselessly.

Yes, his gravity brings us back to the Samson of Milton's imagination: or, still further back, to the Homeric hero (and Homer, you know, is supposed to have been blind too). The dignity of those formidable good looks that wounds only made unforgettable. The gravity of the hero with responsibility for leadership. Brave, yes, and pretty tough, with no reluctance for a fight. But also forethoughtful, using the wiles of Odysseus—to get out of tight corners and round awkward ones—and his ingenuity too, to find new ways of helping the handicapped. Ian's flair for engineering and design drove him (as long ago as 1919) to drive the gramophone companies for fifteen years until 'talking books' became

available for the blind (and incidentally the first long-play records for all of us). 'Sonic spectacles' came next, and the 'Optacon', a device that turns ordinary print into a form that can be read by touch.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills". So indeed we should, if we have eyes to lift. But the achievement of Ian Fraser's life can be summed up like this: *he* lifted up the *loss* of his eyes, in bounden duty and service, day by day for nearly 60 of his 77 years of life. That living sacrifice was accepted and made creative of great good. It has put new heart into tens of thousands of the sightless (and the sighted) who came within its influence, and nothing will stop the good work now. The world will never be quite the same as if Ian Fraser had not lived and learnt the mystery of the road of suffering.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things". I dare to say that Ian Fraser's inheritance is "that house where there is no darkness or dazzling but one equal light". Thanks be to God.



## TRIBUTES

Among messages of sympathy received from civilian and war-blinded welfare organisations at home and abroad were:

### Australia

"Our deepest sympathy from Blind Soldiers of St. Dunstan's, Australia."

### Belgium

"The war-blinded remember with gratitude his devotion and innumerable services which he rendered them during the two World Wars."

### Canada

"He was our good friend; we are the richer from his inspiration and leadership."

### France

I send you the sincere condolences of the French War Blinded, and my deepest sympathy.

### West Germany

"In true comradeship—from the German War Blinded."

### New Zealand

"... a family of ex-servicemen throughout the Commonwealth who will mourn the loss of their leader."

### South Africa

"Lord Fraser by his teaching and example showed us that there is still a full and meaningful life that a blind man can live."

## Rhodesia

"St. Dunstan's in itself will provide a living memorial to its greatest member, leader and benefactor."

Representing overseas war-blinded organisations at the service in Westminster Abbey, together with their wives or other relatives were:—

Australia—Mr. W. Luck

Belgium—Baron de Kerchove Borluut

Canada—Mr. M. Carlton

France—Mons. H. Amblard

Germany—Herr Dr. F. Sonntag

New Zealand—Mr. J. May

South Africa—Mrs. F. Opperman

## Memorial Service in Scotland

Scottish War Blinded Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen remembered Lord Fraser in a special service held at noon on 4th February at Linburn, the residential centre of the Scottish National Institution for the War Blinded, near Edinburgh. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Farquhar Lyall, Senior Chaplain, Scotland, the lesson was read by the Institution's Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. R. S. Ramsey, and the Tribute was by the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Osborne, O.B.E., who is also a member of the Council of St. Dunstan's

*Mr. Edward Heath meets St. Dunstaner Bob Evans and his wife, Lynn.*





# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 661

MARCH 1975

5p MONTHLY

## Message to the Staff of St. Dunstan's from Lady Fraser

I have asked the Editor of the *Review* to print this personal note because I want to thank all St. Dunstan's staff for their help in making the Service of Thanksgiving such a wonderful occasion. I wish I could thank you individually.

I do understand the enormous amount of work involved and I know how proud Lord Fraser would have been to see the efficient and thoughtful way everything was done. I am sure all St. Dunstaners and others present at the Abbey would wish to join me in sending grateful thanks to you all.

## From Miss B. Bell, Ben Rhydding, Nr. Ilkley, Yorkshire

I feel sure I shall be speaking for all St. Dunstaners when I say how very much I appreciated the excellent arrangements made for us by Mr. Lloyds and his staff in connection with the Thanksgiving Service for Lord Fraser's life and work. Their preparations for our comfort and convenience must have meant a very great deal of forethought and consideration, hard work and intensive organisation on their part, with every possible contingency appearing to have been foreseen and catered for in advance. I am most grateful to them for their efforts on our behalf.

I thought too, that the service was so right, combining, as it did, a certain amount of ceremonial with sincere simplicity. It left us with a feeling of acceptance of the future and gratitude for the past, in place of the sense of deep sorrow and loss of the last few weeks. This must be as Lord Fraser would have wished, that we should go forward with confidence, not linger with regret.

## REUNIONS—1975

All Reunions to be held at 12.15 p.m.  
for 12.45 p.m.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Reunion</i>	<i>Hotel</i>
<i>Thursday, 17th April</i>	<b>Brighton</b> Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Metropole
<i>Thursday, 24th April</i>	<b>Liverpool</b> Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Adelphi
<i>Saturday, 26th April</i>	<b>Manchester</b> Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Midland
<i>Thursday, 15th May</i>	<b>Newcastle</b> Mrs. Plaxton Miss Skinner	Royal Station
<i>Saturday, 17th May</i>	<b>Sheffield</b> Miss Broughton Miss Newbold	Royal Victoria
<i>Saturday, 31st May</i>	<b>Bristol</b> Miss Meyer Miss Newbold	Esso Motor
<i>Saturday, 14th June</i>	<b>London</b> (Central) Miss Davis Miss Newbold	Russell
<i>Thursday, 26th June</i>	<b>Ipswich</b> Mrs. Adkins Miss Davis	Copdock
<i>Saturday, 28th June</i>	<b>Birmingham</b> Miss Newbold Miss Broughton	Esso Motor Coventry
<i>Thursday, 17th July</i>	<b>Southampton</b> Mrs. Lyall	Polygon
<i>Saturday, 19th July</i>	<b>London (Kent &amp; Surrey)</b> Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Russell



# WAR PENSIONS

*We reprint below an important letter on war pensions from Colonel James Hughes, C.B.E., Chairman, Royal British Legion, published in "The Times" of 5th February.*

## Pensions for war disabled

Sir,

There appears to be a determined effort by a small group of MPs during the discussion in Standing Committee of the Social Security Benefits Bill to persuade the government to introduce legislation which would result in disablement pensions and invalidity benefits being paid to all disabled on a scale based simply on degree of disablement. As a consequence the pension preferences, which have traditionally been associated with the war disabled, would be abolished. The Royal British Legion takes a very serious view of this.

We agree with the Disablement Income Group that all disabled and chronically invalided people, whatever the original cause of their handicap, should be given a "maintenance award". This maintenance award should be based simply on degree of disablement, and presumably in these days of means tested benefits would have to be related to some assessment of financial circumstances. We believe that war disabled pensioners should also qualify for this award as of right, in the same way as those disabled in industry, by traffic accidents, through illness, congenital defect, and so on. Such an award would, in my view, be seen as fair by the public at large.

However, if the state is to be fair to its war disabled it must not assume that in granting them a maintenance award as indicated above it would have discharged its responsibilities in full. Among the disabled and chronically sick are those who have become so because of the negligence or direct causal responsibility of others. Included in this group may be those disabled in industry and in traffic accidents and who have won compensation awards in courts, and the thalidomide children who have received compensatory grants from those who accept responsibility. It is significant that in these cases the state has not been involved and that

compensation comes from other than government sources, but if the state should be negligent, it can also be sued by its employees disabled as a result of that service—with one notable exception, namely service in the military forces of the Crown.

Unlike other employees servicemen are not protected by the safety standards required by the Factory Acts; they have no rights under common law to sue their superiors for negligence, nor can they claim damages against the Crown.

Servicemen must serve when, where and how they are ordered. They must obey orders regardless of the personal danger involved. This possibility is not restricted to war situations. The only year in this century when British servicemen were not killed in conflict situations was 1968, and tragically the situation still continues today in Northern Ireland. While some occupations like fire fighting, mining, police work and so on have dangerous elements, they do not include the deliberate exposure to danger because of the demands of the situation as is the case in military service. That is why military service is unique.

I would suggest that the government cannot have the best of both worlds. It cannot deny the disabled serviceman the right to sue it, and at the same time take away all war pension preferences. Such a procedure would be grossly unfair, and would single out the serviceman, among all employees, as one to be denied a compensation award against those responsible for his disablement.

In conclusion I would like to stress that nothing I have said detracts from the Legion's firm support for a fair deal for all disabled and chronically invalided persons, possibly through the payment of an adequate maintenance award.

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Wendy, daughter of *Donald Groves*, Newbury Park, Essex, is to be congratulated on the result she obtained when taking part in the Redbridge Schools Elementary Piano Examination in July, 1974. Wendy came top of all the schools in the area with 93 out of 100 marks.



## COMING EVENTS

### Cader Idris Climb

For the second year in succession, Mr. R. O. L. Thomas, a Member of St. Dunstan's and a supporter for many years, has very kindly offered to organise a climb of the mountain Cader Idris (2927 ft.) by a party of five St. Dunstaners. The period will be Friday 6th to Monday 9th June. Overnight accommodation will be arranged at Dinas Mawddwy for St. Dunstaners and their wives.

The aim is to reach the summit of Cader Idris and although not particularly arduous, the climb would take up to two and a half hours and applicants should be fit. Strong boots or shoes fitted with studs or cleats are advisable. Escorts will be provided locally for the climb, some of these are between 20-30 years of age and would like to meet any St. Dunstaner in this age group.

Would interested St. Dunstaners please write to the *Review* fairly soon. Expenses will be covered.

### Royal Tournament and Trooping the Colour

It is anticipated that we may be allocated tickets again this year for the Private View of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court on the afternoon of **Wednesday, 16th July**, and also for the Trooping the Colour Ceremony on **Saturday, 14th June**, in the morning.

Any St. Dunstaner who would like to apply for tickets should contact Miss Bridger by Monday, 14th April, please.

C. D. WILLS

### H.M.S. Daedalus. Camp Week

St. Dunstan's Camp this year will be from **Friday, August 15th to Saturday, August 23rd**. Camp Fee £7.00. St. Dunstaners are asked to pay up to £3.00 of travelling expenses; any excess will be refunded. Please send your entries as soon as possible to: **Miss Elspeth Grant, 7, Craven Hill, London, W.2**. Telephone-Evenings 01-262 2723.

I have asked Miss Grant, whom you have met in Camp the last two years, to help me by taking entries.

AVIS SPURWAY.

## NOT FORGOTTEN ASSOCIATION

Once again, in response to invitations kindly extended by Miss E. J. Seeley Organising Secretary of the "Not Forgotten Association", several St. Dunstaners and their escorts had the pleasure of joining other ex-Servicemen at the annual party held in the Royal Riding School, Buckingham Palace.

The Patron of the Association, H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent attended, accompanied by the Chairman, Major General G. M. Dyer, C.B.E., D.S.O. H.R.H. spoke to many of the guests personally and, this year conversed with almost every St. Dunstaner present.

Mr. George Eustace (who last year presented the Duchess with a bouquet) met H.R.H. again, as did Mr. R. G. Field. Among the newer St. Dunstaners who had the honour to meet the Duchess were Messrs H. J. Haskey of Harrow; W. S. J. Mead of East Ham; T. Slater of Bethnal Green; M. Eastwood of Sidcup; E. Philpot of Romford; A. L. Watson-Grafton of Kingsbury.

Messrs. E. Carpenter of Kings Langley; E. C. Corbettis of London; W. Crombie of Epsom; D. McGoochan of Tolworth were also present. Miss P. J. Rogers, Southern Area Superintendent, accompanied the St. Dunstan's contingent and introduced each St. Dunstaner to the Duchess.

H.R.H. spent extra time with Mr. and Mrs. Crombie and congratulated them on the success in life of their daughter, Dawn, who is also blind and a trained physiotherapist. Mrs. Crombie must have been the proudest mother present as she chatted happily to the Duchess of Kent about Dawn's marriage and the arrival of a new grand-daughter.

The guests were entertained by the orchestra of the Grenadier Guards and a number of well-known artistes, including Patrick Moore, Lulu, and Frankie Howerd amongst others.

Looking around at the smiling faces present, there was no doubt that this was a most happy and memorable occasion which will certainly give cause for reminiscence to all those St. Dunstaners who had been fortunate enough to attend.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1680*

## **One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich**

by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Trans. by Ralph Barker

*Read by Anthony Parker*

*Reading Time 6½ hours*

Ivan Denisovich is in the eighth year of a ten-year sentence for high treason, i.e. being taken prisoner by the Germans. His "One Day" begins just like any other day in January in the Siberian labour camp.

He is awakened with the rest before dawn. Breakfast consists, as ever, of thin soup, porridge and a hunk of black bread. Then the prisoners muster in the sub-zero temperature, to be counted and counted again and marched off to work, building a power station.

On the site the day proceeds quite normally. The guards are in the towers, tommy-guns at the ready, prisoners scrounge bits of wood to make illicit fires, dinner the same as breakfast. Everybody works with a will for rations are calculated strictly on the amount of work done.

"Home" in the fading light, to be checked and searched, a bowl of "skilly" for supper.

And so to bed. Just a normal day...

But not quite the same as other days. This one has been rather special for Ivan Denisovich. For a start there was that extra bowl of soup he had managed to filch on the work-site. His team-leader had successfully fiddled the work-sheet—that meant "good" food for the next four days. Then a fellow-prisoner who had had a food-parcel, had given him his bowl of soup. And to cap it all he had been able to buy tobacco from another prisoner.

He lies on his filthy sawdust mattress, his feet tucked into the sleeves of his jacket to ward off frostbite, a cigarette between his lips. He smiles. It has been a good day, a very good day! . . . "almost a happy day..."

The book is written in that matter-of-fact, low-key style which distinguishes Solzhenitsyn's work. The descriptions of life in a Soviet hard labour camp are graphic and starkly realistic.

Which isn't surprising. The author served eight years in this type of camp for the very serious crime of making derogatory remarks about Stalin.

*Cat. No. 1483*

## **The Penthouse Conspiracy**

by Chapman Pincher

*Read by George Hagan*

*Reading Time 8½ hours*

Everybody's writing books these days, comedians, "TV Personalities", even Members of Parliament. So I was curious to find out what kind of a job a distinguished journalist would do.

The result is classic cloak-and-dagger, a stirring yarn of nuclear diplomacy, the "Balance of Terror" and skullduggery in high places. There is no violence, no hard-faced characters toting silenced automatics, no kidnappings—just plain straightforward gentlemanly double-dealing, better known by its modern title of International Politics.

All the right ingredients are here—Polaris Submarines, defecting Russians, secret messages in diplomatic bags, MI5, KGB, inter-departmental jealousies, lying and spying a-plenty. And it all sounds beautifully authentic. A journalist of the author's standing has many contacts to provide the background details. Indeed there is a long and impressive list of "credits" at the beginning of the book, including—would you believe?—the Pentagon!

And Mr. Pincher doesn't like international politicians very much either, it seems. In his book they appear as a sort of cross between the Mafia and the Third Form at St. Trinians—which is probably just about right.



## Derby Sweepstake 1975

Applications are once again invited from St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's trainees for tickets in the *St. Dunstan's Review* Derby Sweepstake. The attention of everyone is drawn to the rule that **every application for tickets made in the British Isles must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

**Tickets are 20p** each, and applications for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, 21st May.** Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and **with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed,** must be sent to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and

crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

Tickets will be issued consecutively, and are limited to twenty-five.

The total money subscribed, less the cost of printing and expenses, will be distributed as follows:

50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

No prize won in the Sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold.

The Draw will take place in the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 29th May, the race being run on 4th June.

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## READING TIME—continued

It's pure entertainment, a Bank Holiday stroll along the Corridors of Power—complete with distorting mirrors of course.

But, a little uneasily, I wonder just how distorted the image really is—how larger than life the characters?

*Cat. No. 1100*

### **Mistress to Kafka**

by Margarete Buber-Neumann

*Read by Gretel Davies*

*Reading Time 9 hours*

During the war, whilst in Ravensbruck concentration camp, Frau Buber-Neumann met fellow-prisoner Milena, journalist and Czech patriot. A strong bond of friendship was formed and during the years of captivity, Milena's story gradually unfolded. On her release, the author decided to write this biography and sub-titled it "The Life and Death of Milena".

The daughter of a well-known Prague surgeon, her wayward and rebellious spirit often led to bitter quarrels with her father, mainly because of her non-conforming attitudes to social niceties.

She became one of the leaders of a

burgeoning Czech culture and made many lifelong friends among the writers and poets of the day. Her search for truth and fulfilment led her to Communism but the realities of the repressive cult sickened her and she rejected it.

She became a journalist of some eminence and when the Germans invaded Czechoslovakia, her uncompromisingly outspoken articles often got her into trouble with the Nazi authorities.

The wholesale persecution of the Jews soon followed and Milena joined an underground organisation, using her flat as a hideout for Jewish families and helping to plan their escape to freedom. Inevitably her daring and complete disregard for her own safety led to her arrest by the Gestapo. She was sent to Ravensbruck where eventually she died.

This is a sincere and moving story of heroism and great personal courage, set against the grim background of a Nazi death-camp.

However, I do have one small criticism. I felt the title was just a bit of a cheat. I had expected to hear far more about Franz Kafka, (one of the reasons I chose this book) but, alas, the gentle genius gets only a passing mention.



# CLUB NEWS

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## BRIGHTON

The Annual General Meeting was held in December 1974. Among the guests we had the pleasure of receiving were Mr. D. Hopewell, Mrs. E. Dacre and Miss F. Ramshaw.

### Officers

**Mrs. E. Dacre** President  
**Miss F. Ramshaw** Vice President  
**E. Frearson** Captain and Chairman  
**T. Kirk** Vice Chairman

### New Committee

**T. Kirk**  
**J. Walker**  
**E. Quinn**  
**H. Preedy**

We have a full quota of Bowling matches in the coming season.

Those of you who live in the area are welcome to join the Club.

Mrs. Dacre very kindly presented the winners with their Cups and they were as follows:

Cribbage	<b>W. Scott</b>
Whist	<b>W. Scott</b>
Dominoes	<b>T. Kirk</b>

**MRS. RUFUS JONES**  
*Hon Secretary.*

## MIDLAND

There was a very good attendance for our first meeting of 1975 which was held on Sunday, 12th January.

The draw was made for both of our domino knock-out competitions and for the darts competition.

As soon as tea was over we made a good start to the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out, and quite a number of games were started, not all of them were completed but they will be at our next meeting.

Tea for this meeting was provided for us by Mrs. Connie Faulkner and we all thanked her for an excellent spread.

Our February meeting was held on Sunday, 9th February and once again it was well attended and we had an excellent meeting.

We had as our guests at this meeting

the members, with their wives, of the Building Sub-Committee of the Royal British Legion Headquarters. They contemplate carrying out reconstruction and decorating work throughout the club and came along to see whether there was anything that they could do to make things better and easier for our club when we held our meetings. I am pleased to say that they went away with one or two ideas which should help us eventually.

Our domino competition went along as usual and we were able to finish the first round of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out competition and we shall be making the draw for the second round next month.

I am still awaiting suggestions for this year's outing, and hope to get some ideas at our March meeting which will be held on Sunday, 9th March, at 3 p.m. If you are still toying with the idea of joining our Club, why not come along and join in our outings and other activities, you will certainly be made welcome.

The tea for the February meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec and she did a grand job for which we all thanked her.

We all thanked Miss Maisie Streets for all that she did for us regarding travelling arrangements on Tuesday, 4th February, when, as did so many other's St. Dunstaners we travelled to London for the Thanksgiving Service for Lord Fraser's life and work. Miss Streets arranged a reserved compartment for the Club so that we were able to travel together.

We all thought what a most impressive place Westminster Abbey is and we were all very pleased at being able to join in such a wonderful and moving service for such a great man.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary.*

## LONDON

Annual General Meeting

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Club Rooms on Saturday, 1st February, 1975.



The Chairman, Bill Miller, outlined the activities of the Club during the past year and thanked the Committee for its services.

He said 1974 had been a satisfactory year for the London Club, but events away from the Club, notably the Bridge Congress, have not been as carefree. After having been postponed for some five months, due to delays in the work being done at Ovingdean, happily this problem has now been resolved and we are to hold the Congress at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, once again. Otherwise, Bill remarked, the Bridge Section enjoyed a very good year with Bob Evans, our Captain, continually trying out new ideas particularly on team selection. The know-how organising genius of Paul Nuyens continues to be invaluable in arranging the Harrogate Week, the Congress and the London Business Houses League events.

The Indoor Section is doing very well, Bill continued, attendances for Dominoes on Thursday evening had been good throughout the year. The Knock-out and Fives and Threes Competitions were held again and Roy Armstrong pulled off a double by winning them both.

### Your Wives

Your wives, he said, are an essential part of the Club life and therefore, it is right that Mrs. Gladys Hancock should be able to keep a motherly eye on their interests. Judging from the number of wives that attend the London Club, she must be doing a very good job. Gladys won the 'Ladies' Domino Aggregate Competition, so congratulations and thank you for your help.

Swimming continued during the Summer months for those who wished to participate.

Bill finished his report by recording a large vote of thanks to Mr. Wills, whose generosity made it possible to keep up with inflation and thereby maintain a decent standard of prizes for all sections of the Club, and to Norman Smith for all the trouble he has taken, and given us, throughout the year.

Miss Carson, too, was thanked for her work in connection with the London Club.

In conclusion, he said on behalf of the Committee, we are happy to have served you in the past year and trust you will

## BRIDGE NOTES

The second Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 1st February. The results were as follows:

J. Simmons and F. Griffie	81
W. Lethbridge and S. Webster	77
A. Dodgson and J. Whitcombe	66
R. Goding and W. Scott	62
R. Fullard and E. Bedford	57
C. Walters and W. Burnett	56
A. Smith and R. Bickley	53

The first Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 1st February. The results are as follows:

P. Nuyens and W. Miller	73
F. Dickerson and W. Phillips	73
J. Huk and J. Lynch	64
W. Allen and Partner	64
J. Padley and Miss Vera Kemmish	57
R. Evans and J. Majchrowicz	47

*P. NUYENS,*

*Secretary.*

### 34 Years with the Post Office

*William Dunlop* of Balcombe, Sussex, retired from the Post Office in November, 1973 after 34 year's service. He was a Senior Technician Class 1 and on the 12th December, 1974 he was presented with the Imperial Service Medal at the Telephone Manager's Office, Brighton.

### CLUB NEWS—continued

continue to support the London Club in the future as you have done in the past.

In the absence of Mr. Wills the statement of accounts was read by N. Smith.

The Committee was re-elected in office for a further year.

The Domino Winners during the month of January were as follows:

9th January.	1. <b>R. Armstrong</b>
	2. G. Stanley
	J. Majchrowicz
16th January.	1. <b>J. Majchrowicz</b>
	2. R. Armstrong
23rd January.	1. <b>C. Hancock</b>
	2. J. Padley
	P. Sheehan
30th January.	1. <b>W. Miller</b>
	2. R. Armstrong



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

January is, in general, an unlovable month. Festivities are but a memory, days are short, and Parkinson's law operates—as the bills pile higher, the bank balance sinks to an all-time low. Here in Brighton, gales howled, rain lashed the streets, and the sea heaved with anger. Numbers of both St. Dunstaners and staff fell by the wayside with 'flu and feverish colds, and social occasions had to be postponed. The only music to be heard was the wheezing of protesting lungs! However, everything passes — eventually — and towards the end of the month, steps lightened and quickened, and laughter grew in both frequency and volume.

During the whole of the month, the Theatre Royal presented "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", which was much enjoyed. The music was delightful, the lyrics sparkled with it, and the whole company played with enormous zest and enjoyment, which it communicated to its audience.

Late in the month Mr. Tom Eales gave one of his beautifully arranged and produced record programmes. This took place in the Winter Garden, and was, as always, very popular. The weekly drives continued, and the more intrepid souls amongst us braved the wind and rain in order to enjoy tea and buttered scones in various parts of Sussex.

## Thanksgiving—Brighton

On the day that the Thanksgiving Service was held in Westminster Abbey, the house was quiet. The thoughts of all were with Lady Fraser and all those privileged to be present, as members of the staff read the Order of Service to those unable to attend.

The last few days of the month were warm and bright—we resolutely put thoughts of Winter behind us, and cheerfully anticipate the Spring, that happiest of seasons.

## TALKING NEWSPAPER

The Talking Newspaper for blind people living in Epsom and Ewell, which the Epsom Toc H branch was organising, is now a reality, with the first issue of the magazine being recorded last month.

Local news taken mainly from the Borough newspapers, is presented as a 40 minute recording on compact tape cassettes which are sent individually to listeners in returnable pouches through the post. St. Dunstaners who live in the Borough or who formerly lived there might like to get in touch with Mr. Brian Jones, 69, West Street, Ewell, Surrey, Tel. No. 01-393 2274 who would be pleased to help with any further information they may require.

## WALKING CLUB NOTES

Although my notes on the walks at Ewell have been missing from the *Review* of late the races have been taking place as usual. The race on 25th January was rather quiet, but a very friendly affair. The course was over 5 miles 184 yards.

### Result

Order of Finish	Handicap Time	Allowance	Actual Time
C. Stafford	49.58	10.30	60.28
R. Young	50.25	10.30	60.55
S. Tutton	50.48	8.30	59.18
J. Simpson	51.06	4.00	55.06
M. Tetley	52.07	5.00	57.07
D. Purches	54.30	.45	55.15
W. Miller	56.56	scr	56.56

The positions in points for the Archie Brown Cup after 3 races are:

C. Stafford	19 points
R. Young	17 "
M. Tetley	17 "
S. Tutton	15 "
D. Purches	14 "
W. Miller	13 "
J. Wright	12 "
J. Simpson	7 "

W. MILLER





## IT STRIKES ME

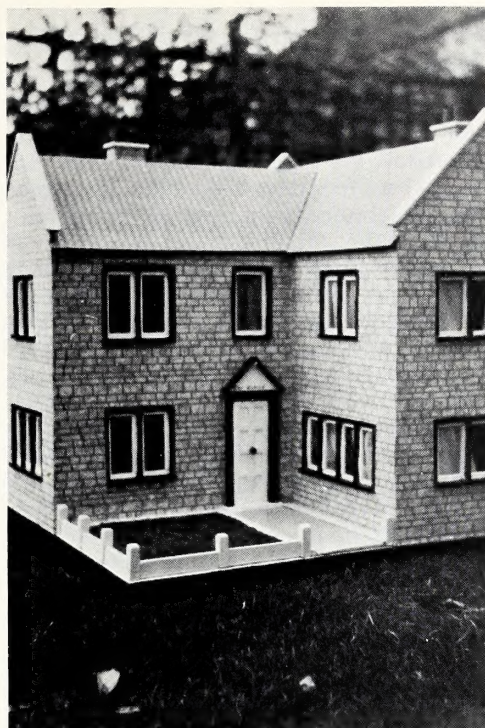
### Physiotherapy Pioneer

In 1906, when **Albert Brown** was 21, King Edward VII was on the throne. Just before he was 30, he left his work as a clerk and enlisted in the 16th London Regiment, on New Year's Day 1915. The First World War changed irretrievably the world he grew up in—it also changed Albert's private world. He was wounded at Arras in 1917 and became one of the pioneer St. Dunstaners in the profession of massage—or physiotherapy as we know it to-day.

Albert Brown was 90 on 26th January but he was still practising as a physiotherapist up until last year. Over 55 years in his profession he has known the rough and the smooth. The early days were a struggle as he told me when I met him a few years ago, "Like Mr. Micawber, one waited day after day for something to turn up. I managed to get some patients from the War Pensions Committee at 1/6d a treatment for other ranks and 3/6d for officers." 7½p and 17½p per treatment! Times were hard then.

Happily, through his own initiative, his practice began to improve. To become known in Reading where he had moved from Bath, Albert worked free at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, "Patients were coming and going and they all lived in Reading. If you did any good to anybody, one recommended you to another."

By the late 1940's his practice was flourishing and he gave up a part-time hospital appointment but he was still regularly treating a few patients until August 1974. Certainly an outstanding record of service to others.



*Ted Miller's Doll's House.*

### Mini Survey

Mr. Patrick Leonard Payne, of St. Dunstan's Estate Department was asked to survey a house recently. He wasn't surprised—it is the sort of thing he is asked to do regularly in the course of his work. His surprise came when he was shown the house—it was less than three feet high!

The doll's house was made to the design of St. Dunstaner **Ted Miller**, of Leamington Spa. It is "L" shaped with two bedrooms, bathroom, staircase and landing, kitchen, dining and sitting rooms and has electric lighting.

Mr. Leonard Payne is full of praise for the "architect" Ted, who lost his hands as well as his sight in the Second World War, but even more for the "builder", Ted's wife Iris, who not only made the house to Ted's instructions but also most of the furniture. As he says, "A remarkable family!"

**Magog**



## New £10 Bank of England Note

A new £10 note, bearing a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, was issued on Thursday, the 20th of February 1975, but it may be a few days before the new notes are available at branch banks throughout the country.

The new note, which measures approximately  $3\frac{5}{16}$ " x  $5\frac{5}{8}$ " (84.87 x 151 mm.) is shorter in height than the present £10 note, but of the same length.

The main design on the front, which is printed in brown, has the same portrait of Her Majesty the Queen in State Robes as is used on the £20 note. It also includes the text, a medallion of Britannia and areas of machine-engraved work in which appear the denomination.

The cypher and serial numbers of the note are in black near the top left and bottom right hand corners of the front of the note.

The main feature on the back, which is also printed in brown, is a new portrait of Florence Nightingale which has been specially created for the note from photographs taken on her return from the Crimea. In addition, the back includes a vignette printed in predominantly red and yellow tints and based on a lithograph of the time depicting Miss Nightingale at the Barracks Hospital, Scutari.

The watermark, which is on the left hand side seen from the front, is based on the same portrait head of Florence Nightingale. The paper also incorporates a thread to the right of the centre of the note.

The note has been designed by H. N. Eccleston, R.E., A.R.W.S., a member of the Bank's staff.

### Life Member

*Frank L'Estrange Fawcett* got life in January. A certificate of Life Membership of the Royal British Legion in recognition of his services to the Stowmarket Branch. He is a founder member and has been President for the last 26 years.

Frank is also a County Vice-President of the Legion, whose National executive council awarded the certificate "for meritorious service". It is one of the highest awards the Legion can give to its members.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Albert Tear**, of Normanton, West Yorks, joined St. Dunstan's in January of this year. He served with the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment during the 1st World War and is married.

**Jack Robson Sinnett** of Torquay, Devon, came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1975. He was commissioned and served with the Royal Artillery in the First War. He is a widower, his wife having died just about the time he became a St. Dunstaner, but he is very independent and manages in a flat on his own.

**Reginald Springell**, of Castleford, West Yorks, came to St. Dunstan's in January of this year. He served with the Royal Corps of Signals in the 2nd World War, and is married with two sons, one of whom is at Leeds University.

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### The Sunny Side of the Street

How many St. Dunstaners have a street named in their honour? In Gore, Southland, New Zealand there is a Johnston Street named after our St. Dunstaner, *Andrew Johnston*, who lives there at No. 51. The street was opened 18 years ago and has twice won the Town Borough Prize for being the tidiest street in 1972 and 1974.

Andrew, who is in his eightieth year, still runs a large vegetable garden and keeps his lawns cut. "Also I keep some poultry and have profited not a little from information gained in the class I attended at St. Dunstan's so many years ago." In fact it is over 56 years since Andrew began his training at St. Dunstan's and he writes: "As the years roll on I am increasingly thankful for all that I learned there and for the fellowship and friendship of so many comrades like myself, were much encouraged to face up to life with courage and assurance."



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

The wedding took place on 4th January 1975, at St. Peters, Bradford, between John Roderick Daborn, only son of *Mr. and Mrs. Tom Daborn* of Martinhoe, Devon, and Miss Maureen Casserly, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Casserly of Bradford.

*Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Fensome* of Warley, West Midlands, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son, David, to Barbara Smith on 25th January at St. Hilda's Church, Warley.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Mulligan* of Derrygonnelly, Co. Fermanagh, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Ann to Malcolm Loughlin on 15th December, 1974. The wedding took place at Mandeville, Jamaica, W.I.

*Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rundle* of Paignton, Devon, have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter Geraldine Ruth to Peter Robert Shaw on 7th December, 1974.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:

*Max Ash* of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, who is delighted to announce the safe arrival of grandson Leslie Paul, born on 20th December, 1974, to his son Steven and his daughter-in-law. This is his first grandchild.

*Douglas Cashmore* of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild, John Michael, born on 25th November, 1974, to his son John and daughter-in-law, Rita.

*William Carr* of High Wycombe, Bucks, has pleasure in announcing the birth of another grandchild, born to his son William (Billy) and his daughter-in-law, on 2nd January, 1975, who is to be called Nathan. He weighed nine pounds at birth.

*Robert Forster* of Leeds, who is proud to announce the birth of his first grandchild—a son Paul Robert, born on 23rd January to his son Ian and daughter-in-law Katherine.

*Stanley Jones* of Wembley, Middlesex, on the safe arrival of his first grandchild, Simon, born on 30th November, 1974 to his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jones.

*James Minter* of Ruislip, Middlesex, has pleasure in announcing the arrival of his second grandchild, born to his daughter Gillian, on 14th December, 1974, who is to be called Mathew.

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## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Ferdinand Bennett* of Forest Gate, E.7, mourns the death of his mother on 11th February, 1975. Although Mrs. Bennett was over eighty she had only recently been admitted to a residential home due to failing health and up to this time they shared the family home.

*William Henry Dudley* of Horley, Surrey, whose son-in-law died after a long illness on 19th January, 1975, and we extend our sympathy to the widow, Mrs. Davis.

*John Halsall* of Bramhall, Cheshire, who mourns the death of his wife Mary Halsall, on 20th January, 1975.



**Robert Stevens** of Orpington, Kent, who mourns the death of his mother who died on 29th January, 1975 at the age of 84. Mrs. Stevens lived in Farnborough.

**Harold Walden** of Warley, West Midlands, who mourns the death of his mother who passed away in October, 1974, at the age of 69.

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## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

**Thomas Joseph Gearing.** *Royal Warwickshire Regiment*

Thomas Joseph Gearing of Lewes, Sussex, died on 20th January, 1975. He was 79 years old.

He enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment during the 1st World War but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1972 when he had already retired as an Iron Moulder.

A few months later he suffered the sad loss of his wife but his daughter, Margaret, who had looked after both her parents in addition to her work in a hospital, continued to care for her father-assisted by her married brother and his wife who lived near by.

Soon after joining St. Dunstan's, Thomas increased his interest in gardening as a hobby and became a member of our Country Life section.

He leaves his two daughters, and his son-in-law, and his sister-in-law.

**Herbert Lea.** *177th Labour Corps.*

Herbert Lea of Hollywood, Birmingham, died at Northgate House, Rottingdean, on 4th February, 1975. He was staying there on a convalescent holiday after a spell of illness. He was 80 years old.

He enlisted in the 177th Labour Corps in March 1917 and was wounded in October 1917. On coming to St. Dunstan's he trained in boot repairing and mat making. He continued with both these occupations until 1930—he was, at that time, living in a rural area which did not provide much demand for his boot repairing so he gave this up to concentrate upon his mats until 1937 when he switched to rug making.

Over the years he had not very good health and Mrs. Lea also lost her sight but they shared many mutual interests and enjoyed attending social activities in their locality for as long as they were

able to and Herbert, quite frequently spent his holidays at Brighton. They moved from Derby to Birmingham, four years ago.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Nellie Lea and their family.

**Thomas Frederick Lea.** *Royal Military Police*

Thomas Frederick Lea of Brighton, Sussex, died suddenly at Pearson House, on 21st January, 1975. He was 32 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Military Police in 1961 and served with them in Northern Ireland when he was wounded by a booby trap explosion in May, 1974. Upon leaving hospital he went with very little delay into training at Pearson House, attending there daily from the home into which he and his family had moved at Preston Barracks in Brighton.

He was undoubtedly a man of great courage and was working very hard in his training. And he hoped in due course to take up Social Work and return to live with his family in his home town of Bootle.

He attended the Sports Meeting at Stoke Mandeville last year and he also came to London last November to take part in the Remembrance Parade.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Muriel Lea, a son, Anthony aged eight, and a daughter, Jennifer aged four.

He was given a military funeral in Bootle on 30th January at which Mr. Slade of the Pension Dept. represented St. Dunstan's.

**Leslie John Shorter.** *Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.*

Leslie John Shorter of Hove, Sussex, died on 8th February, 1975, very suddenly when he and his wife were out for a walk. He was 53 years of age.

He enlisted in the Territorials in August 1939 and served with them until his discharge in 1946. He came to St. Dunstan's six months later and after a period of training and rehabilitation he decided to become a poultry farmer and in 1950 he and his wife started a smallholding. From a small poultry stock he increased his holding to well over a thousand birds and with help and technical advice from our Country Life Department, labour-saving equipment was installed and the small holding flourished and the stock was further increased.

Unfortunately difficulties, which were common to most farmers, made it almost impossible for Mr. Shorter to continue to run his farm and after coping with an outbreak of fowl pest in 1964, he decided to change his occupation. He returned to the Ovingdean Training Centre and retrained as a telephonist. He was successful in finding employment in this capacity and was very happy working for a well-known Brighton Company at the time of his sudden and unexpected death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Enid Shorter, and his son and daughter.



# St Dunstons **REVIEW** APRIL





# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 662

APRIL 1975

5p MONTHLY

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

*After leaving Cambridge University, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme obtained employment in the City where he has worked for many years, a period broken only by service in the Welsh Guards during the Second World War. He is Chairman of Brown, Shipley & Company, Ltd., and a Director of other Companies.*

Your Council has appointed me to be your new Chairman and I am most conscious, not only of the honour which this appointment has conferred, but also of the great responsibility which has been entrusted to me.

The whole-hearted support and assistance which I am receiving from members of the Council and from all those who work for St. Dunstan's, together with the many messages and letters of good wishes which St. Dunstaners have sent me, have been most encouraging and I am very grateful.

With the help of you all I shall do my best to serve St. Dunstan's and to carry on the great tradition of unique individual and personal assistance to St. Dunstaners which was initiated by our Founder and extended and altered to meet changing needs by Lord and Lady Fraser.

The very happy association which I have had with you all for the last seventeen years, most of that time in the capacity of your Honorary Treasurer, has brought me in close touch with Lord Fraser. I shall never cease to be grateful for this and for his wise advice.

The loss of his dedicated and outstanding leadership and the warmth of his personality and friendship must leave a gap in our lives which can never be filled: but happily Lady Fraser, with her great experience and wisdom, continues to devote herself unstintingly to the ideals of St. Dunstan's and to you all.

Each generation has new problems to face, and perhaps the greatest challenge of our times is the increasing rate of inflation. I know you will all share with me the concern which this is causing to each of us individually, and of course to St. Dunstan's also.

Some seven years ago I was appointed your Vice Chairman, and my wife and I have enjoyed meeting many of you at Reunions and at Pearson House and Ian Fraser House.

This year we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee and although it will not be possible for my wife and me to be at all the Reunions, we hope to see many of you again soon and I send my best wishes to you all and also to your wives and families.

*Ion Garnett-Orme*

**COVER PICTURE:** *Stuart Craig sounds the Last Post at the Cenotaph in Palmerston North during the St. Dunstan's, New Zealand, Blinded Servicemen's Association Reunion. (See centre pages).*

**Opposite:** *Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme*









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### MAYORESS ON REVIEW STAFF

For the past ten years Mrs. Caiger, formerly Miss Margaret Leslie, has been on the staff of our *Review*. Since April, 1974, she has been Mayoress of Spelthorne—a new borough formed through the combination of Staines and Sunbury-on-Thames—and in our photograph she is seen with her husband, the Mayor, Captain James Caiger.

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## AVIEMORE AND ME by Joe Humphrey

Having had a very limited experience of ski-ing and snow, namely the deep soft Alpine variety at Courcheval, where Bill Phillips, Bill Claydon, Mike Tetley and I had acquitted ourselves reasonably well in March, 1972, where I learned that all snow was not only white but soft; I was slung in at the deep end at Aviemore in the Cairngorms for a week's training. At the end of the first lesson I knew that no longer did one's skis respond to one's instructions—in the Highlands it is every ski for itself—the ice was solid, the weather relentless.

On the intended departure date the telephone rang and Sport's Instructor, Jock Carnochan announced "The Trip is off, no snow in Austria". Wanting to honour my wife's arranged holiday after having seen me off, I bade her carry on and surveyed the Wintry scene from St. Dunstan's 152, Broadhurst Gardens, until four days later when the Austria party headed for Inverness. On the taxi ride from the Airport to the Hotel there was a

blizzard and we sucked our teeth with the joy of anticipation, but when the bus in front of us stopped, one descending passenger broke his ankle and the doorman who helped him broke his leg, so the enthusiasm started to wear a bit thin.

We spent our first day on the artificial slope whilst the sun and rain wreaked its own havoc with the real stuff. The next day we made for the heights, to be told that the Chair-lift was not working. So in spite of the fact that we were wearing our ski boots we decided to carry our skis and ski-sticks and climb—and climb—and climb—hours later we arrived.

And so we got to the summit—all Pack-ice, where the sun had melted the surface by day and the frost had frozen it solid by night. This meant instead of parallel ski-ing down the slopes, to which I had been accustomed, one had to traverse the slopes diagonally, since gravity would have made the descent too rapid going straight down, by travelling across the run the speed was reduced. A further difficulty



# CLUB NEWS

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## LONDON

The Football Pontoon which ended on 15th February, 1975, was won by Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Padley whose teams were Stoke and Manchester City respectively. Our "booby" prize went to Miss Vera Kemmish with Notts County and Mrs. Meleson with Arsenal.

Now that April's here—and the weather more kind, St. Dunstaners who live in and around London and have not yet visited the London Club may be interested in our Domino and Cribbage Section. We also have a very active Bridge Club.

Our winners of the Domino Games in February were as follows:

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 6th February  | 1. <b>W. Miller</b><br><b>G. Stanley</b>                             |
| 13th February | 1. <b>J. Majchrowicz</b><br>2. W. Miller                             |
| 20th February | 1. <b>L. Douglass</b><br>2. W. Phillips                              |
| 27th February | 1. <b>R. Armstrong</b><br><b>P. Sheehan</b><br><b>J. Majchrowicz</b> |

W. MILLER

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## AVIEMORE AND ME—*continued*

in these conditions was the stopping technique when one had to turn up the hill on the move, very difficult for the totally blind.

As the days progressed I began to feel more and more like a ball on a pintable, which instead of hitting pins—hit boulders, snow-fences, heather patches, and bare patches! Anyway we were not downhearted—if we were not ski-ing we were climbing either up or down, and every day we walked and had a swim.

I have been asked whether or not it is an enjoyable pastime for the totally blind to ski. I will admit that in the Alpine snow it was much more enjoyable. My thoughts in retrospect are that this was a tough and difficult course to handle, with all thanks due to two perfect escorts, Jock Carnochan and Paul James.

## Bridge Drive

An especially warm welcome was given to those who had travelled a distance to be with us on the afternoon of Saturday, 8th March. Twenty St. Dunstaners with their friends and wives met in the Club Rooms for their Bridge Drive, making a total of ten tables.

On completion of the afternoon's play, Bob Evans welcomed Miss Mosley of the Headquarter's staff on behalf of the Club. Miss Mosley then graciously presented the prizes to the winners and stayed for some time after tea mingling and chatting with St. Dunstaners, their guests and their families.

We are again indebted to Mrs. R. Armstrong for her help in the selection and buying of the St. Dunstaners' prizes.

Winners of the bridge drive were as follows:

1. **J. Lynch and Mrs. Lynch**
2. R. Armstrong and Mr. Jack Armstrong
3. J. Carney and Mr. E. Webster
4. H. King and Mrs. King

P. NUYENS,  
Secretary.

## MIDLAND

Our March meeting was rather poorly attended due to one member or another having other commitments, and, as the weather conditions were appalling, this may have kept others away.

We therefore were unable to play off any of our competitions and we could not even make the draw for the second round of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock out competition as a game was still outstanding from the last round.

Nevertheless it was an enjoyable meeting and we were able to discuss and make a decision on our summer outing. It was decided that we should pay a return visit to Southport as everyone had enjoyed it so much last year. The date arranged for it is Sunday 15th June and it was decided that all members should get their own meals during the day, thus reducing the cost to the club.



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

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In common with the rest of us, the world of the theatre seems to be feeling the bite of inflation, for during February two one-man shows visited the Theatre Royal. The first was given by Emlyn Williams reading from the works of Charles Dickens. The second was "A Funny Kind of Evening with David Kossof". Whilst appreciating the talents of both actors, it must be said that it demands an extraordinary personality to hold an audience for two hours, and such actors are rare indeed.

On the home front, Sunday evening entertainments took place in the Winter Garden. Wally Muspratt brought his warm personality, pleasant voice and his company of "Four in Harmony", and the audience much enjoyed joining in the choruses of the old songs. Our old and valued friend Miss Eve King joined the cast of V.A.D.'s who performed three one-act comedies, which caused much hilarity—some of it unpremeditated!

To say that our postman was weighed down with Valentine cards on February 14th would be an exaggeration. In fact it would be a downright lie. But there were certainly a few pleased smiles in evidence around Pearson House on that day. Vive l'amour!

Toward the end of the month, BBC T.V. ran a documentary film of great interest to all who have an affection for Brighton. It concerned the efforts of various people

to ensure the preservation of the West Pier, which suffered extensive damage more than a year ago. The cost of restoration would be very large, but seen against the background of the cost of building the Marina, and taking into account the great affection for the pier felt by so many, perhaps the money would be well spent. A strong case was put by St. Dunstan's Ken Revis, who lost his sight whilst dismantling a mine on the pier. He described most vividly the last place he saw, and one hopes that such an eloquent and sincere plea will not pass unheeded.

Our regular Dances, Bingo and Domino sessions took place, and record concerts were given by V.A.D.s Mrs. Exley and Mrs. McMaster, which were much enjoyed. The month ended with a real feast for music-lovers at the Dome—a recital by Arthur Rubinstein, followed two days later by a concert given by John Lill and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Eugeny Svetlanov. Any feelings that one might have had about the concert—or anything else for that matter!—being an anticlimax after Rubinstein, were completely dispelled. In their totally contrasting ways, both were superb. A wonderful end to the month!

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## MIDLAND CLUB NOTES—*continued*

Mrs. Olwyn Rea should have prepared the tea for this meeting but owing to one of her children going sick at the last moment she had to stand down, although she had already bought all the necessaries for the meal, and so Mrs. Joan Cashmore stepped in and picked everything up from Mrs. Rea's home and laid the tea on for us, so our thanks go to both of these ladies for arranging a very fine spread.

DOUG CASHMORE,  
*Secretary.*

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## STAFF OBITUARY

### Mr. Frederick John Grover

Those St. Dunstaners who were trained as Boot Repairers will be sorry to learn of the death of *Mr. Grover* on 3rd March at the age of 71 years. Mr. Grover was one of three Boy Scouts who acted as escorts during the early years of St. Dunstan's in Regents Park and later joined St. Dunstan's staff. He was an Instructor in the Boot Department from 1919 to 1925. He re-joined St. Dunstan's in 1940 but was called up soon after. On his demobilisation he became a Technical Visitor in the Boot Department until his retirement in 1968. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Grover.



## THE LATE DUKE OF NORFOLK

*Following the death of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., on 31st January, our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme expressed condolences to the Duchess in a letter which we print below together with her reply. The Duke had been a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's since April 1970.*

31st January, 1975

My dear Duchess,

On behalf of all St. Dunstaners I write to bring you and your family our deepest sympathy in your great sadness.

In addition to being one of our Vice-Presidents for many years the Duke always had a close personal interest in the welfare of St. Dunstaners at Pearson House and Fraser House, whilst the visit to Arundel Castle when you entertained the handless is remembered by them with the greatest pleasure.

He will be sorely missed by us all,

Yours sincerely,

Ion Garnett-Orme.

18th February, 1975

Dear Mr. Garnett-Orme,

Thank you for your very kind letter with its condolences from St. Dunstan's on the death of my husband.

He was very honoured, I know, to become a Vice-President, and had always taken the keenest interest in the affairs of the Company. We were glad to have Pearson and Fraser House so near us and enjoyed the visits St. Dunstaners made to the Castle.

Please thank everyone for me.

Yours sincerely,

Lavinia Norfolk.

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## LONDON CLUB Derby Day 1975

As our costs regarding coach and other necessary expenditures have almost doubled in the past year, and also taking into consideration the poor response from St. Dunstaners in the past two years to participate in our Annual Derby Day, we have reluctantly decided that to arrange a similar outing this year would prove economically impossible.

## TAPE-RECORDING SERVICE

This service aims to help visually handicapped persons to follow their occupations, studies and hobbies, by giving them access to letterpress material via the tape-recorder. Volunteer readers will record on tape or cassette anything from knitting patterns to University courses, refusing only political papers and books already available from the R.N.I.B. The service also provides library facilities, offering a selection for children and a non-fiction section.

For further details, send a stamped addressed envelope to **Mr. Charles Cadwell, Secretary, Tape Recording Service for the Blind, 48 Fairfax Road, Grange Estate, Farnborough, Hants,** or telephone evenings and weekends, Farnborough 47943.

## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

**The Closing Date of the Derby Sweepstake is Wednesday, 21st May.**

Tickets are 20p each, and are limited solely to St. Dunstaners or St. Dunstan's trainees.

**Each application must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

The name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, should be sent, with the stamped addressed envelope, to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday 29th May. All those drawing a horse will be notified.

## FAMILY SUCCESS

John, son of *Paul Baker* of Sidmouth, Devon, has now secured a place at Magdalen College Oxford, and will be reading Chemistry. He passed all the necessary examinations and interviews before he was seventeen and a half.

Janet, *Paul Baker's* daughter has now embarked on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and has obtained her Bronze and Part I of her Silver has been accepted.





*Mount Ruapehu, seen from the Desert Road, North Island, New Zealand.*

## **VISIT DOWN UNDER**

*Between 14th January and 8th February Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan, our Hon. Treasurer, accompanied by his wife, visited blinded ex-servicemen's organisations in Australia and attended the Triennial Reunion of St. Dunstaners in New Zealand. We give below some salient points from Mr. Delmar-Morgan's report to the Council of St. Dunstan's.*

### **AUSTRALIA**

We visited three cities in Australia, Perth (Western Australia), Melbourne (Victoria), and Sydney (New South Wales). In these cities there are active Associations, all of whom have now included St. Dunstan's in their title. Indeed at two of our meetings we were

presented with the new St. Dunstan's Australia badge. One badge was passed on to the New Zealanders, and one badge was brought home.

In each state we found excellent organisations, and happy members. Throughout, the Officials of the Associations were in direct contact with the relevant sections of their respective state governments. In general the Australian Welfare Trust Board provided financial support, particularly directed to the improvement of members homes. Generally speaking there seems to be a very adequate state pension for retired ex-servicemen, and those incapacitated receive a number of exceptional privileges viz. domestic rates at 50% (and wholly



free in a number of cases), free electricity and travel, plus free medical attention. Altogether some very considerable benefits in these days of escalating costs.

**Perth**—We were entertained to tea by the West Australian Association at the Kings Park Tea Rooms on Thursday, 16th January (we arrived in Perth at 3 a.m. that morning on a direct "Jumbo" flight from London. It had been a fifteen hour flight with a nine hour time change). The Tea Rooms were located high on a hill in the main city park and botanical gardens, and looked down over the expanse of the Swan River as it curled its way through the city—a remarkable view. There were present about twenty blinded ex-servicemen, together with their wives and their President, Mr. Jim Ward, and their sighted Secretary, Mr. Frank Wooller (personnel manager of a city departmental store). Also present was Alan Dean (trained in U.K.) and his

wife, whom we had met on our previous visit three years ago in Melbourne. There was an article about him in the February issue of the *St. Dunstan's Review*.

**Melbourne** — We were delightfully dined by the Officials of the Melbourne Association at the new Naval and Military Club on the evening of Monday, 20th January. Present were the President and his wife, Colin and Elizabeth Johnston, the Secretary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Longden, and two Vice Presidents, Mr. and Mrs. Len Johnstone and Mr. Don Westaway. Don works for the Australian Guide Dogs Training Centre in Melbourne, which had been the location of the reception they had given us on our previous visit.

**Sydney**—We flew north to Sydney over lunch time on the following day, Tuesday, 21st January, and arrived at the Returned Servicemen's League Club in Ashfield—a western city suburb—at 6.30 p.m. We

*Mr. and Mrs. Michael Delmar Morgan with members of the St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association and visitors at the Reunion.*





spent the evening with the members, a number of whom we had again met on our previous visit. It was pleasant, however, to be able to talk to one new member whose sight had only recently completely failed. The majority of those members present, numbering about twenty together with their wives, were pensioners and they included the Federal President, the Federal Secretary and the State President. We had the pleasure of meeting one of the Directors of the Welfare Trust Board who provides financial assistance throughout Australia to all incapacitated ex-servicemen, in particular the blind. Mr. W. H. Luck, the Federal President, and his wife represented Australia at Lord Fraser's Memorial Service. They were responsible for designing the new St. Dunstan's Australia badge, and they are currently

organising the forthcoming Blinded Ex-Servicemen's Triennial Conference in Sydney.

Australia is such a vast continent that the State Associations play an exceptionally important role in the administration and welfare of their members. I have to say that thanks to a number of very dedicated blinded members and sighted administrators, they seem to succeed very well.

The majority of the members do not identify themselves very closely with St. Dunstan's in England since so many of them have been trained in Australia. It is, therefore, only a few who take a close personal interest in the affairs of St. Dunstan's U.K. because of their military service connections, and training at Brighton.

## NEW ZEALAND

We flew the 1,400 miles from Australia to New Zealand on Friday, 24th January, landing at Wellington in the evening after yet another time change and a loss of two hours. We travelled to Palmerston North in the North Island for the St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association Reunion and arrived at the Fitzherbert Motor Inn, Palmerston North, on the Saturday morning. This was to be our base for the three days of the Conference. The Motel is very modern and comfortable and owned by Dominion Breweries, the main New Zealand brewing group; its setting was ideal and its layout perfect for the thirty St. Dunstaners and their wives and/or families who were present.

### Triennial Reunion

The New Zealand Reunion is held triennially and in the past it has been very much a family affair with members bringing their wives, children, guides etc. This Reunion was no exception, except that the children of those serving in the last war had in the main spread their wings and were busy raising families of their own.

It was a hectic few days, beginning with a formal lunch at the Motel, followed by an evening of entertainment

at the local Returned Servicemen's Association Club. A wreath laying ceremony was held at the town cenotaph the following morning, when I laid a wreath on behalf of St. Dunstan's U.K. The ceremony was noted for an excellent rendering of the Last Post, played by St. Dunstaner, Stuart Craig, on a trumpet. This was followed by Sunday Lunch at the Commercial Travellers' Club, and a bus trip into the country to visit the beautiful park-like garden of a farming property, owned originally by an early settler, and now by the New Zealand equivalent of the National Trust. We visited Massey College, the famous Agriculture University of New Zealand, and we also saw in the distance the Volcano, Mount Ruapehu, very snow-capped, even in mid-summer, and rising ten thousand feet into the sky from a flat plateau—it was a most impressive sight.

### Conference Morning

Monday morning was Conference morning, and the Reunion terminated at lunch time that day. The weather had been very kind, with sunny days, temperatures in the low eighties, not too hot for the more elderly, first world war St. Dunstaners.

It was a delightful Reunion, thoroughly



well organised by the President and Secretary (both partially sighted) and yet disarmingly informal. There must have been at least eighty people in all, including wives, children, helpers, and representatives from the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, the Commercial Travellers' Association and the Returned Servicemen's Association. The most striking feature of the members was their deep loyalty to Britain. A small number of them had been trained in England and one of them had been at the original St. Dunstan's in Regents Park, but they all seemed to have connections with members or staff in the organisation in England and many of them had met Lord and Lady Fraser during visits to England. Personal messages have been relayed by us to a number of persons in the organisation.

St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) are a fortunate Association. As an ex-servicemen's organisation they receive a generous grant from the Government and this is very ably administered by the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board. The President of the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, The Hon. A. E. Allen, and their Director, Mr. A. N. Boag, were both present and at their invitation we subsequently visited their Headquarters in Auckland.

St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) also benefit from the financial help provided by the Commercial Travellers' & Warehousemen's Association, and the Returned Servicemen's Association (R.S.A.). The former Association underwrote a part of the Reunion costs and they also provide club rooms for meetings.

### Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation and training of blinded ex-servicemen in New Zealand is now carried out at Homai College, the Headquarters of the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, where I understand that the training facilities rank amongst the best in the world. Indeed, the Council will recall that a substantial amount of experimental work is undertaken at medical colleges in New Zealand.

We were asked to convey to St. Dunstan's U.K. the appreciation of both St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association, and the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, for sending a member of the

## BRIDGE NOTES

### BRIGHTON

The third Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 1st March. The results were as follows:

R. Fullard and J. Simmons	79
W. Lethbridge and C. Walters	70
J. Whitcombe and R. Goding	66
E. Bedford and Partner	65
W. Claydon and F. Griffiee	61
W. Burnett and W. Scott	58
M. Clements and A. Dodgson	56
A. Smith and S. Webster	49

### LONDON

The second Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 1st March. The results were as follows:

W. Phillips and J. Padley	71
P. Nuyens and J. Huk	70
A. Caldwell and F. Dickerson	65
Miss Vera Kemmish and	
H. Meleson	61
J. Lynch and W. Miller	58
W. Allen and J. Majchrowicz	53

*P. NUYENS,  
Secretary.*

### VISIT DOWN UNDER

*—continued*

Council to this Reunion—the previous visit had been by Lord Fraser in 1934.

In turn, our thanks have been conveyed to the Officials and members of St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association; to their President — Mr. Schofield, their Secretary — Mr. Sadler and to St. Dunstan's representative in New Zealand—Mr. May, and their respective wives. They made us feel very welcome and gave us a particularly interesting time.

My wife and I were very honoured to be the Council's representatives at the Reunion. It was a fascinating and, I believe, worthwhile visit.



## St. Dunstan's Fishing Club

The concluding event for the 1974/75 season of the St. Dunstan's Angling Club was a week-end's sea fishing from Newhaven, organised by St. Dunstan's. On Saturday 22nd February, on what was a very cold morning with overnight frost and a keen south-easterly blowing, 25 members of our Angling Club, with helpers, assembled outside the tackle shop of our old friend, Denis O'Kennedy, Old Port Road, Newhaven, where we picked up our bait and provisions. In 5 boats the party were not able to get out very far because of the rough conditions and nothing very interesting was caught.

However, on Sunday, 23rd February, with a hazy fog that cleared up shortly to give us a truly, glorious day's outing, our members except for a few casualties from *mal de mer* of the previous day, embarked just after 9 a.m. David Bell won the club prize for the heaviest fish of the week-end with a 3 lbs. Channel whiting caught from the "Jazazee" skippered by Bert Donno.

On Sunday too, Bernard Blacker caught a total bag of 14 lbs.—how does he do it?—whilst fishing from the "Penhall", skippered by Guy Rushbrook, and he wins the Topper Brown Cup for this year. The Red Ball Company trophy goes to Bob Fullard for the 12 lbs. turbot he caught earlier last year fishing from the "Ellen K", skipper Jim Kettle.

Mention must also be made of the catches of some members of the crew of the "Bridgehaze" skippered by Roy Archer. One angler pulled up a nice whiting along with a wonderful spread of sea weed, whilst another on board was dismayed to find that he had hooked on to some sea anemone which in its turn, was firmly attached to a big rock. The "Bridgehaze" crew were particularly pleased to find that Hazel, the skipper's 11-year old daughter, had come along to help us and what with baiting hooks, serving hot coffee, cans of beer, untangling snags in our lines, she proved herself invaluable. Meantime, here's looking forward to fair winds for our next outings scheduled for 26th and 27th April.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Arthur Batcheller Coveney** of Dover, Kent, joined St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He was working on Coastal Defence installations during the Second World War. He is a widower and has a son who lives near him.

**John Alfred Goddard**, of Great Amwell, Nr. Ware, Herts, joined St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the First World War in the Bedfordshire Regiment. In more recent years he worked as a caretaker and continued in this occupation until the age of 73, when he retired. He is married but has no family.

**David Moss** of Christchurch, Dorset, came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the Royal Fusiliers and later in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps during the First World War and was wounded in 1917 whilst training troops but he continued in the Army until his discharge in 1928. After leaving the army he worked as an Inspector in the R.S.P.C.A. and later as a Civil Servant, retaining his last job until his retirement in 1959. He is married with a grown-up family of seven children.

**Thomas Page** of Rochdale came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the Parachute Regiment during the Second World War and is married.

**Alfred Smith** of Clayton, Newcastle, joined St. Dunstan's in February 1975. He served in the first World War in the East and West Yorkshire Regiment and the Northumberland Fusiliers. He is married.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 301*

## **You English Words**

by John Moore

*Read by Alvar Lidell*

*Reading Time 11½ hours*

This is a rich and splendid book about our native tongue, written with loving care by a man whose business is words. He collects them with the eager enthusiasm of a schoolboy collecting bright butterflies.

He traces the origins and development of English. He speaks with real affection of its oddities and absurdities, its beauty, subtlety and dynamism. He tells us we have plundered the languages of the world to enrich our own—we get “husband” from the Norse raiders, “mammoth” from Russia and (ironically) “alcohol” from the Arabs, to whom its joys are prohibited by the Koran.

There is something here for everyone to enjoy, from the homespun language of the countryside to the high-falutin claptrap of “Official English”.

The book is illustrated with carefully chosen quotations from the great masters of English usage, Chaucer and Churchill, Shelley and Shakespeare, Bunyan and the Bible.

I particularly enjoyed the gentle debunking of many of our cherished myths about the origin of certain words. No English King ever did “knight” that joint of beef, thus elevating it to “*Sir-loin*”, and “marmalade” has nothing whatever to do with Mary Queen of Scots—although I must confess I find “*Marie-malade*”, absurd as it is, to the true, more prosaic, explanation!

This book is an absolute “must” for those who have real love of, and a lively interest in, our mother-tongue. And that *ought* to mean *everyone*?

For me, sadly, reading this splendid book highlights one of the limitations of our marvellous Talking Book Service. For this is a work to be kept and cherished, to be dipped into for instruction, for entertainment, even for solace.

But unfortunately, it has to go back!

*Cat. No. 494*

## **The Business of Murder**

by Edgar Lustgarten

*Read by Arthur Bush*

*Reading Time 7½ hours*

This is a study of six mass-murderers, all of whom paid the full penalty for their crimes (five hanged, one guillotined). In each case the evil that they did certainly lived after them, for each crime was the *cause celebre* of its day, but there seems little evidence of any good having been interred with their bones.

As one might expect from an expert in jurisprudence, the facts of each case are laid before the reader clearly and succinctly, with no detail, however ghastly, left out, and with Mr. Lustgarten's own words reinforced by extracts from trial records. It all makes very chilling reading!

The writer also takes the opportunity (surprisingly perhaps) of stating categorically his own strongly-held views upon capital punishment. He deplores its abolition and believes that the death penalty is right and proper “in appropriate circumstances”. He obviously has no time at all for “the apologists” and those who seek to find deep-hidden psychological excuses for the conduct of the lawbreaker. In his view criminals are just criminals and ought to be treated as such.

The last case dealt with is that of Christie. Much of the detail here is revolting in the extreme and the now defunct BBC warning—“Not for children or those of a nervous disposition” would, I feel, be appropriate.

Still it's a very fascinating book. But then, as Mr. Lustgarten says, “Murder has a terrible fascination”.

*Cat. No. 182*

## **The Manchurian Candidate**

by Richard Condon

*Read by Marvin Kane*

*Reading Time 11¼ hours*

In Korea a twelve-man American patrol is ambushed and taken to a secret hideaway, where they are brainwashed.



# Optacon Training Success

We were very pleased at headquarters to have a visit in January from Maurice Aldridge, our St. Dunstaner who is a lecturer at Grahamstown University, South Africa.

Some months earlier Lord Fraser had invited him to come to London to take the intensive training course that is involved in learning to read with the Optacon but pointing out that the degree of success likely to be achieved could never be predicted.

Lord Fraser had felt, however, that Maurice, some 20 years younger than second-war St. Dunstaners, had always

demonstrated a sufficiently high level of motivation as to make him a promising candidate.

We are glad to report that the venture was entirely successful and congratulate Maurice and also St. Dunstan's, South Africa, for the close interest the organisation has taken in the experiment.

Mrs. Aldridge and their schoolboy son, Oliver, also came and Mr. John Walker, a linguistic colleague at Grahamstown, accompanied them. The plan was that he should simultaneously be trained as an Optacon teacher, to supervise and to monitor progress for several months after Maurice's return to South Africa.

We would like to thank Mrs. Lucke, the joint R.N.I.B. and St. Dunstan's Optacon teacher, for tackling the dual task of training a pupil and a teacher simultaneously for several hours a day throughout the fortnight's intensive course at headquarters.

South Africa has thus the capability both to demonstrate an Optacon in use and to impart learning skills to other teachers or pupils.

Our Director of Research, Richard Dufton, who supervised the arrangements for the official Optacon trials from 1972-74, made the training arrangements for the special course.

Mrs. Opperman, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, South Africa, in writing to St. Dunstan's says:

*"I know that my co-directors would like to be associated with my thanks and appreciation for your Council's generosity in making a gift of the Optacon and the 'Visual Display Unit' to our organisation, together with, as you say 'a competent teacher who could impart his knowledge of the system to others', and a qualified reader in Maurice."*

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## Reading Time—continued

A special treatment is reserved for Sergeant Raymond Shaw. He is "programmed" for special duties, which he will perform, at a given signal, and without any subsequent knowledge that he has done so.

After the war Raymond returns home to a hero's welcome, having won the Medal of Honour for outstanding bravery.

But has he? Did he, not caring anything for a living soul, really risk his life to save his comrades? And what is the mission those nasty Communists have set him up for?

The plot is wildly impossible. The idea that anyone can remain for eight years under post-hypnotic control, just awaiting the key-words which will instantly transform them into an unthinking automaton, is plainly preposterous.

But it is still first-class entertainment. The writing has a fine urgency and is peppered with brightly - coloured American metaphors and similes which makes it a joy to read.

All the characters are superbly drawn, Raymond himself, suspicious, withdrawn, unloving and unloved, his wealthy mother power-hungry megalomaniac, and his Senator step-father, a shifty-eyed sot, puppet - manipulated by his scheming wife.

And the sting is in the tail, a completely unexpected "twist" ending which left me full of admiration for the author's craftsmanship.

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## Congratulations

We offer our sincere congratulations to Robert Crabbe, son of the late *William Crabbe*, High Wycombe, Bucks, who has completed a four year apprenticeship in Engineering. He has passed his City and Guilds examinations but is still continuing day release study at college.



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. G. Cattell* of Althorpe, Northampton, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Lesley married Philip Purser of Guilsborough, at East Haddon Church, East Haddon, Northampton on 22nd February, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Seth Bennett* of Bradford are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Janice to John Haley on 8th March, 1975.

## Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. James Percy Brown* of Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 5th February, 1975. As James is convalescing after a recent illness, they spent the day quietly at home with their daughter and son-in-law from Glasgow.

Warm congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grimshaw* of Beccles, Suffolk, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th December, 1974.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:

*Douglas Cashmore* of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, who is happy to announce the birth of another grandchild—Ann Louise, born to his son Robert and daughter-in-law, Denise, on 25th February, 1975.

*Tom Hart* of Folkestone, Kent, is delighted to announce the safe arrival of a grandson, Guy Fitzpatrick, born to his son Christopher and daughter-in-law, Lyn, on 1st January, 1975—a brother for Lisa.

*John Lewis* of Ewell, Surrey, who is delighted to announce the birth of another grandchild. A son, Alistair Brinley, was born on 20th January 1975, to his daughter Jacqueline Batten and her husband.

*Edward Miller* of Leamington Spa, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild—Matthew Stewart John, born on 7th February, 1975 to his daughter, Susan and her husband.

*Henry Preedy* of Lancing, Sussex, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his third grandchild, born to his daughter Sandra and his son-in-law, Tony.

*Albert ("Bertie") Partington* of Bolton, Lancs., is delighted to announce the birth of his second grand-daughter, Katie Alexandra, born to his son and daughter-in-law, Ian and Adrienne, on the 10th February, 1975.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Jim Delaney* of Bridgewater, Somerset, mourns the death of his half-brother, Tom Watson, on 9th February, 1975. He lived in Manchester.

*Lincoln Robinson* of Luton, Nr. Chatham, Kent, who mourns the death of his wife, Mildrid Robinson, on 28th January, 1975. We extend our sympathy to his two married sons and their families.

*Reginald Gordon Sheriff* of Gloucester, who mourns the death of his father in December 1974 at the age of 92 years.

*George White* of Leeds who mourns the death of his wife, Isabella Margaret, on 17th January, 1975.



# In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

## **William H. Bailey.** *4th Lincolnshire Regiment.*

William H. Bailey of Heckington, Sleaford, Lincs., died at St. Andrew's Nursing Home, Ewerby, on 13th February, 1975. He was 76 years of age.

He enlisted in 1915 in the 4th Lincolnshire Regiment and was wounded in France in November 1917 when, in addition to his loss of sight, he also suffered the loss of a leg. It was not until much later in life that his sight failed completely and he came to St. Dunstan's. He joined St. Dunstan's in August 1973 and by that time, of course, he had retired. Unfortunately his health was causing concern and three months after joining St. Dunstan's William was admitted to a nursing home and sadly his health never improved.

He leaves a nephew, Mr. Arthur Walters, of Balderton, Newark.

## **Godfrey Ronald Belcher.** *Royal Highland Light Infantry.*

Godfrey Ronald Belcher of Erdington, Birmingham, died at his home on 14th February, 1975. He was 64 years of age.

Godfrey went to Canada as a child and it was with a Canadian regiment that he enlisted soon after the outbreak of the Second World War. He was wounded and came to St. Dunstan's in 1945. He trained for industrial work and settled in this but in 1946 he and his wife went to Canada where they remained until 1954. After returning to Great Britain Godfrey continued in industrial employment until 1970 when he retired, due to rather poor health. Towards the end of last year he became seriously ill but in November was well enough for a spell of convalescence at Pearson House. Unfortunately his health did not improve and it was at home that he passed away.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Joyce Belcher, who has suffered a double bereavement as the death of her husband was preceded by the death of her father a few hours earlier. Godfrey also leaves two daughters and a step-son.

## **Alfred Outtrim.** *The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.*

Alfred Outtrim of Hertford, Herts, died in hospital on 6th March, 1975. He was 78 years of age.

He enlisted in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in January 1913 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. After his discharge Alfred was able to follow full employment and for many years he worked for a well-known Electricity Board. His sight gradually failed and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in the latter part of his life but fortunately, his general health enabled him to share many hobbies with his wife, including keeping birds, cultivating his garden and belonging to several local social Clubs.

Alfred always made light of his war injuries but in recent years his health deteriorated slowly. He was admitted to hospital on 5th March and unfortunately died the following day.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Catherine Outtrim, and his married son David and his family.

## **Albert Tear.** *Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment.*

Albert Tear of Normanton, West Yorkshire, died in Pinderfield Hospital, Wakefield, on 24th February, 1975. He was 76 years old.

He enlisted in the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment in the First World War and lost the sight of one eye in 1916 but on leaving the army he was able to work as a boot repairer for 40 years and then as a hospital worker until he retired. He joined St. Dunstan's at the beginning of this year when he lost his remaining sight. He was already in poor health and was actually in hospital when he became a St. Dunstaner. Unfortunately his health did not improve.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Tear, and his son, William.

## **George Weldrick.** *Royal Naval Reserve.*

George Weldrick of North Hull, North Humber-side, died at his home after a short illness, on 25th February, 1975. He was 80 years old.

He was a trawler fisherman and in 1940 he joined the Royal Naval Reserve and served in a mine sweeper. He was wounded in the same year and came to St. Dunstan's in 1945. After training he settled in industry and continued in this work until 1957 when he retired due to poor health. He enjoyed holidays at our Brighton home. Sadly his wife died in 1970 and George lived alone being cared for by members of his family who lived locally.

He leaves six sons and a daughter.



**MAY  
REVIEW**

**ST. DUNSTONS**

**IAN FRASER HOUSE**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 663

MAY 1975

5p MONTHLY

## Ian Fraser House Re-opened

"I have much pleasure in re-opening Ian Fraser House", with these nine words Lady Fraser of Lonsdale C.B.E. dressed in black and looking elegant, handsome and serene, drew aside a curtain covering the commemorative stone on which the following words are inscribed :

"After modernisation and the construction of a new South Wing this building was re-opened by The Lady Fraser of Lonsdale, C.B.E. on the 11th April, 1975".

Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, accompanied by his wife, then spoke to a company of about 100 people assembled in the lounge. They included the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton, Councillor and Mrs. D. Sheldon, members of St. Dunstan's Council, Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, K.C.M.G., The Rev. F. Darrell Bunt, C.B., O.B.E., M.A., Mr. M. Delmar-Morgan, Lord Hunt of Fawley, C.B.E., M.A., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., Air Marshal

Sir Douglas Morris, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., Mr. Nigel Pearson and Major M. E. M. Sandys, J.P. with their wives, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, T.D., J.P., Lady Ellerman, Mrs. Frank Spurway, M.B.E., Miss Frances Ramshaw and Mr. A. D. Lloyds; also Mr. C. D. Wills and staff from Headquarters and Brighton. St. Dunstaners present, in addition to those from Headquarters, were Ted Frearson, Chairman of the Brighton Social Club, Ron Smith, Radio Brighton's presenter of "Listen and See", a weekly programme for the blind and Richard Hall, Chairman of the Red Ball group of companies who are among suppliers to St. Dunstan's.

Having thanked Lady Fraser, Mr. Garnett-Orme said:

"The stone which you have unveiled will be placed in the wall just outside the main entrance, opposite to the Foundation stone of this building which was laid by Lady Arthur Pearson in 1938. It is most appropriate and so very fitting that your name should be permanently associated with Ian Fraser House in this way. I know that all St. Dunstaners will join me in thanking you for performing this ceremony and our great sadness is that Lord Fraser is not with us also. I will now ask our Padre to bless the new Wing".

The Reverend W. Popham-Hosford, O.B.E., M.A., R.D., then blessed the new Wing and, in the course of the prayers which he offered were the following words:

"Thank you Lord for keeping in glad remembrance thy servant Ian who has gone before. He has stood by us and

*Left: The Mayor of Brighton, Councillor Danny Sheldon watches as the Mayoress tests the water temperature in the new swimming pool.*

**COVER PICTURE:** *The main entrance with the words Ian Fraser House over the door.*







*Lady Fraser unveils the commemorative stone, temporarily placed in the lounge. With her is Mr. Garnett-Orme, who spoke afterwards.*

helped us, has cheered us by his sympathy and strengthened us by his presence. May we ever hold his example before us and may his spirit ever be with us as we carry on the work to which he dedicated his whole life."

In a prayer for those who work for St. Dunstan's Mr. Popham-Hosford added:

"Almighty God, Father of all mercies, grant all those who have to care for the blind that they may be given wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience that always bearing thy presence with them they may bring help and comfort to those whom they serve."

"Thank you very much Padre," Mr. Garnett-Orme continued, "for blessing our new Wing and all those who will work in it and enjoy it. It was always planned that this re-opening should be an informal, family occasion and we are delighted to have with us the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton to join members of the Council and their wives and some

long standing friends and helpers of St. Dunstan's, including Mrs. Opperman who is Chairman of St. Dunstan's, (South Africa). Also with us are representatives of our Architects, Consultant Engineers and Contractors and those of us from Headquarters and Brighton who have special involvements with Ian Fraser House. Here I would like to read a telegram that we have received from South Africa.

"The Chairman, Members of the Board and blinded ex-service comrades of St. Dunstan's (South Africa), send greetings and best wishes to British St. Dunstaners on the occasion of the opening of Ian Fraser House. May its future be blessed and bring happiness to all its residents." Signed Eglin, Deputy Chairman.

"I welcome you all and thank you for coming and I give a special thank you to the Commandant. It has been his tireless planning and organisation, in addition to





*Commandant Fawcett presents a Parker Pen and two orchids to Lady Fraser on behalf of the Brighton staff.*

all his usual duties which have made this re-opening possible for us to-day, and we are very grateful.

"The building has been refurbished, all the services such as kitchens, lighting, lifts, heating and plumbing, which were worn out have been renewed; and the large dormitories have been converted into single and double rooms, each with its own wash hand basin and new furniture. Considerable thought has been given to protection from fire and also to reduction of noise. A new Wing has been built which contains new workshops; it also contains a gymnasium, bowling area and a number of recreation rooms and a large covered swimming pool.

"Looking back in the *Review*, I see that some years ago we had letters from 13 St. Dunstaners suggesting that a swim-

ming pool should be built here and in the Chairman's Notes of December 1966 Lord Fraser said, 'You may rest assured that this matter is very much in our minds'. I am, therefore, very glad now that this pool has been provided and hope that those who asked for it, all of whom are still active, and many other St. Dunstaners will make much use of it.

"The refurbishing and the new Wing have taken two-and-a-half years to complete and Ian Fraser House, with beds for about 70 St. Dunstaners, will be occupied again on 2nd May.

"After lunch the building is open for us all to walk round and I hope you will approve of what has been done. The inspiration for it came largely from the Commandant and our last Secretary, Mr. Lloyds."



## **SOUTH AFRICAN UNIVERSITY HONOURS LORD FRASER**

Shortly before his death Lord Fraser was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy by the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Province, South Africa and on 28th February this degree was posthumously conferred on him by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr. J. S. Gericke, at a ceremony on the Campus.

Mr. Christopher McDonald, a grandson, accepted the degree on behalf of Lord Fraser and in his speech he expressed his and Lady Fraser's thanks. In the Citation Dr. J. N. N. de Villiers, Rector of Stellenbosch University, paid a warm tribute to Lord Fraser.

The State President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr. J. J. Fouché, and his wife attended the ceremony and among those present were: Lady Ellerman; The British Ambassador, Sir James Bottomley, K.C.M.G., with Lady Bottomley, Admiral H. H. Biermann, S.S.A., O.B.E. with Mrs. Biermann and other dignitaries.

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## **THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR LORD FRASER**

### **Order of Service and Address available in Braille**

A limited number of Braille copies of the Order of Service and the Address by Lord Redcliffe-Maud will be available during next month for those St. Dunstaners who are Braille readers and who would like to have one. Mrs. Dora Penstone (late of the Welfare Dept.) Brailled the master copy, and further copies will be made on the Brailon Machine as required. The book is small, measuring about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  $\times$  10 ins. with an elastic binding which enables it to open flat.

A tape recording of the spoken parts of the Service was made and copies in Talking Book cassettes or in Philips cassettes have been provided for Welfare Visitors so that St. Dunstaners may have the opportunity of hearing the recording during a routine visit. The recording includes an introduction spoken by Stephen Jack.

## **PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN WAR BLINDED ORGANISATION**

In the June 1973 *Review* we reported that it had been proposed that Lord Fraser should be President of the European War Blinded Organisation during the next three years. Our Public Relations Officer, Lieut.-Commander Robin Buckley, G.M., has now been nominated to succeed Lord Fraser in this appointment for the remainder of the term.

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## **COMING EVENTS**

H.M.S. Daedalus. Camp Week

St. Dunstan's Camp this year will be from **Friday, August 15th to Saturday, August 23rd.** Camp Fee £7.00. Fares over first £3.00 repaid in Camp. Campers being collected by coach, return fare £3.00.

Closing date for entries **10th May.** Please send your entry as soon as possible to **Miss E. Grant, 7 Craven Hill, London, W.2.** Telephone—(evenings) 01-262 2723.

## **DIARY NOTES**

Stoke Mandeville

Annual General Meeting **June 14th** at 2.30 p.m. Anyone wanting to come, let me know. If more than two we must draw.

**Mrs. Spurway,  
Mount House,  
Halse,  
Taunton, Somerset**

The Multi-disabled Games at Stoke Mandeville, **Friday, September 12th to Sunday, September 14th.**

## **ANY ONE A WINNER**

Derby Sweepstake closing date:

**21st May.**

Tickets 20p each.

Address: **The Editor, D.S.S. Dept.,  
191, Old Marylebone Road,  
London, NW1 5QN.**

Draw: London Club, Thursday, 29th May. All those drawing a horse will be notified.



# Ski-ing in the Cairngorms

Can ski-ing be regarded as a competitive sport or as an enjoyable recreation for St. Dunstaners?

To find out the answers a pilot scheme was arranged with our old sporting friend Willi Hohm of Austria, who derives great pleasure from ski-ing. The two weeks' visit to Bodental, South Austria, to take part in a ski-ing course for the Visually Handicapped had unfortunately to be cancelled at the last possible minute due to the lack of snow, the first time apparently for forty years, in that part of Austria.

However in our own native Scotland at Aviemore in the Cairngorms there was snow and plenty of facilities for ski-ing and so our party of four St. Dunstaners set off from Heathrow to fly to Inverness on 29th January for a week's ski course. The party consisted of Joe Humphrey, Alan Wortley, Ted Bunting and Ray Peart escorted by Paul James, our Catering Officer and myself.

The principal reason for the expedition was to find out if ski-ing could be an enjoyable and competitive sport for St. Dunstaners without any sighted experience of ski-ing. It should be noted that Winter Sports for the Disabled and Visually Handicapped are now annual events with competition applicable to all grades of skiers.

## A week at Aviemore

Our course at Aviemore lasted a week and there was enough snow to enable us to ski, although the condition of the piste or slope was not the best for beginners. However, our team was undaunted and very keen to get cracking irrespective of conditions. The first day was spent on the artificial slope where all beginners get used to the awkwardness of walking on skis and practising the very necessary basic technique of snow plough stops, snow plough turns and walking up the slope.

Our next few days were spent on the actual ski slopes, vastly different from the plastic surface of the artificial one, much faster and less smooth, but under the

expert instruction of the head instructor, Roger Morrison and his colleague, Angus Carlyle, one could observe the steady progress made by our team, in fact it is fair to say that in the initial stages our four St. Dunstaners made better progress than some of the sighted classes. The weather made conditions on the slopes pretty treacherous, with the sun melting the surface of the snow and the hard frost at night freezing it into a skating surface. Our skiers continued with the course even though they did take some hard falls.

## My Opinion

My opinion as a sighted observer is that, given further professional instruction with plenty of practice under better snow conditions our team would be capable of competing in the novice section of ski competitions for the visually handicapped. One had to consider that if the person had skied before the loss of sight he or she need only require an accompanying ski-ing escort to guide them on the slopes, whereas it is much more difficult to learn after the loss of sight, bearing in mind that all instruction must be verbal rather than demonstrative and this requires the expertise of specially trained instructors. The course was hard and tough and for anyone contemplating such a venture it is advisable to prepare oneself physically beforehand.

## All About it

As a matter of interest the Aviemore Sports and Holiday Centre has many attractive features for those who desire an outward bound type of holiday with some form of activity to suit most. The country setting is ideal, surrounded by the Cairngorms; the accommodation and food excellent, and, whichever interest you decide to pursue, there are qualified instructors to teach you. Activities include ski-ing, skating, curling, swimming, pony trekking, mountaineering, sailing, orienteering, etc., with sufficient thirst quenching facilities to satisfy the most ardent drinkers after a hard day's exercise!

*JOCK CARNOCHAN*



## **FORTY YEARS' SERVICE**

A member of staff who will be known to many St. Dunstaners celebrated forty years' service with the organisation in March.

George Stevenson joined St. Dunstan's Estate Department on March 25th, 1935. "We were a department of two—Percy Lale was Manager and I was the staff. We had a 'Box and Cox' relationship most of the time. If he was out, I was in and vice versa. We were responsible for maintenance of both Estate and Admin properties. So far as I can remember we had about 250 Estate properties, many of which were smallholdings in various parts of the country. Visiting then meant train and bus journeys—we had no cars".

### **Regent's Park Days**

George Stevenson recalls that Headquarters was then a single storey building in the Inner Circle at Regent's Park. As a result the staff saw more of each other, among them St. Dunstaners Horace Kerr, and the late Bert Crabtree and 'Drummer' Downs.

The lounge was used by staff and St. Dunstaners. In those days, George Stevenson says, the staff association was very active organising a Dinner and Dance, a Summer Outing, and other, shorter outings in evenings and at weekends. Two or three dances were held in the lounge during winter months.

### **War Service**

At the time of the Munich crisis in 1938, George Stevenson joined the Auxiliary Air Force and he was called up in August 1939. After a period in Balloon Command ending as an instructor, he was commissioned and joined a Flying boat squadron in Africa as a code and cypher officer. "During this period I was able to stay in Cape Town for a couple of weeks and met Mrs. Chadwick Bates, Secretary of St. Dunstan's (South Africa), also Hester Pease, who was matron at 'Tembani'. It was there that I met several of the new St. Dunstaners".

After the war, in 1945, he rejoined St. Dunstan's under Peter Matthews, who had just formed the new Settlement Department, with the aim of housing new

## **INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS**

Sponsored by the European Regional Committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, the above Congress will be held in Paris towards the end of May.

Organisations of and for the blind world-wide will send representatives to take part in a two-day programme when papers on a wide range of topics will be presented.

It is the aim of the organisers to give wide publicity to the enormous benefits that the Braille system has bestowed on blind people throughout the world for, as a means of communication, it has, of course, the great advantage that it can be written as well as read.

The Anniversary commemorates the introduction of the Braille system in 1825 when Louis Braille was only 16 years of age. He had already discussed with Captain Barbier the latter's revolutionary tactile code developed as a night communications system in the Napoleonic Wars. However, young Louis Braille felt that he could do better and worked continuously to evolve a code based on 63 permutations of his famous 6 dot cell.

St. Dunstan's will be officially represented at the Congress.

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### **FOR SALE**

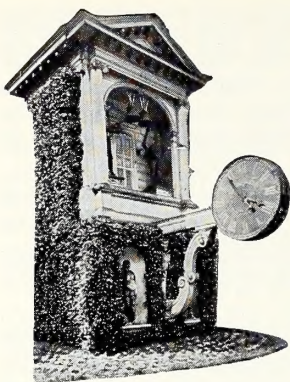
Mrs. D. Cooke of Peacehaven, widow of the late Cyril Cooke, has a Cima Braille wrist-watch in a gold case with an "Excalibur" expandable bracelet. She has asked for offers of £40 and over. Mrs. Cooke's telephone number is Peacehaven 2068.

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### **FORTY YEARS' SERVICE—Continued**

St. Dunstaners. This was the beginning of a partnership that has already covered thirty years. In the early parts of that time George Stevenson travelled the whole of the United Kingdom surveying properties prior to purchase. In 1951, at the forming of the present Estate Department on the retirement of Percy Lale, Peter Matthews was appointed Estate Manager and George Stevenson, withdrawn from the outside staff, became his Assistant.





# IT STRIKES ME

by  
Magog

## Book Man's Forty-five Candles

Forty-five candles on a cake were duly blown out by **Bill Kennedy**, with some assistance from his colleagues, at a party at McGraw-Hill, the book publishers in their Maidenhead branch. Each candle represented one year of Bill's service with the Company, since he joined as a boy of 15 in 1930.

Mr. Kenneth Durman, Managing Director, made a presentation to Bill—a portable radio and cassette tape recorder, together with cassettes recorded

by his colleagues with music to Bill's taste—Mantovani, Glen Miller, Max Bygraves, Al Jolson and Sousa marches.

Mr. Ernest Harris, General Manager, Book Services, spoke of Bill's service with the Company dating from 1930. "When you consider Billy's disabilities and the severe difficulties he suffers through his loss of vision, it is remarkable how cheerful he keeps and how well he does his job year in and year out", he said. "Over the past few years we have introduced a number of different methods of packaging including stapling machines and the latest thing in semi-automatic strapping machines. Billy has tackled these innovations and mastered them all. I must congratulate him on his determination, guts and independence".

## Carnation Years

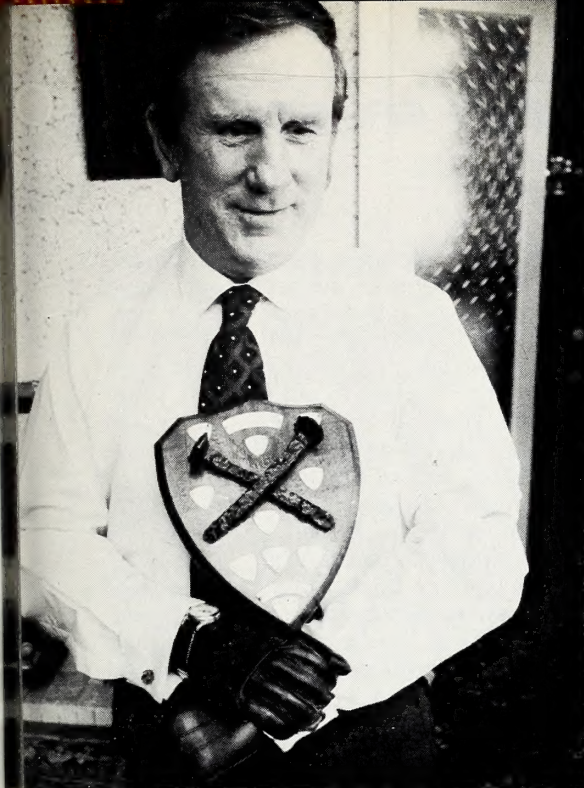
Diamond Wedding anniversary this time, brought an unusual gift for **Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sayers**, at Birchington, Kent. Sixty red carnations from their ten children, five boys and five girls—all grown up now, of course, and doing well.

"The carnations were glorious," Mrs. Sayers told me, "A blaze of colour, I've never seen anything like it. They were the best present I had." The anniversary date was Boxing Day, December 26th but the Sayers postponed their family party until Good Friday, to include their son from Australia, whom they have not seen for 23 years. In all, four generations came.

*Left: With the assistance of two of his colleagues Bill Kennedy blows out the forty-five candles.*







Bill Griffiths

### **"Ah, a St. Dunstan's Badge"**

I was chatting to **Robert Forster**, of Leeds, congratulating him on his new grandson when he told me he had the honour of meeting H.M. the Queen last November. He had visited Bradford where his brother-in-law is Assistant General Manager of the Provincial Building Society. The Society's new offices are in the Bradford shopping centre which was opened by the Queen.

Robert and his wife, Joy, were there as guests in the Banking Hall, when the Queen came in to meet the President and the Chairman of the Society. "Afterwards she walked through the hall", Robert told me, "when she got level with our party she said, 'Ah, a St. Dunstan's badge!' She came across and spoke to me, my wife and my brother-in-law. She said it was twenty years since she was last in Bradford and how it had altered. Meeting her confirmed the image of her that I have always had. She is one of the best. She so easily speaks to people. Unless you knew you wouldn't think it was the Queen. She is so charming, she makes it easy for you."

### **Cross of Nails**

Among the many trophies **Bill Griffiths** has held as one of St. Dunstan's outstanding doubly handicapped sportsmen there has been none so strange and, perhaps, so grim as the shield he is seen with in this photograph from the *Lancashire Evening Telegraph*.

The shield has been presented to Bill by the Blackpool and Fylde branch of the Far Eastern Prisoners of War Association. He will keep it for a year. Two large, rusted nails decorating the shield and arranged in a St. Andrew's cross are nails actually used in the building of the infamous 'death railway' in Burma. Other honours were paid to Bill at the branch's annual reunion. He is now a life member and our Honorary Chairman of the branch.

### **New Zealand Anniversary**

More news from New Zealand, the North Island this time: Golden Wedding celebrations for **Ray and Dulcie Masters** in December last.

Ray is a member of the executive of St. Dunstan's, New Zealand, and has taken an interest in its work for many years in addition to working on his two brothers' farms, docking and shearing sheep and grubbing thistles.

The Masters have lived at Sanson nearly all their lives but their anniversary celebration was held in Palmerston North, where their only daughter, Mrs. Elaine Grey, lives. New Zealand born, Ray served through the 1st World War in the Field Ambulance Corps and was wounded just a month before the Armistice. He spent 2½ years at St. Dunstan's in London.

### **Radio Birmingham**

BBC Radio Birmingham, in co-operation with the Warwick Research Unit for the Blind, has produced a Braille guide to the services provided by Radio Birmingham for blind people.

Radio Birmingham's magazine programme, "Foresight", broadcast fortnightly on Sundays at 3.30 p.m. presents news, views and information of particular interest to blind or partially-sighted people in the West Midlands.

The Braille booklet is available free of charge from Dr. J. M. Gill, Warwick Research Unit for the Blind, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 53*

## **Picture of Japan**

by Colin Simpson

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading time 18¾ hours*

This book contains the recorded impressions of four visits to Japan by a foot-loose writer with a sharp eye for detail, an insatiable curiosity about everything—and the staying power of an Olympic athlete!

The result is a kind of Super Guide Book to Japan, its customs and beliefs, its "topsy-turvyness", the gentle beauty of its scenery, and the charm and grace of its people.

I read the book with interest, particularly as my associations with members of the race (1942-1945) were rather less cordial and rewarding than were those of the writer!

A splendidly entertaining book, tailor-made for the armchair traveller and frustrated explorer.

*Cat. No. 1494*

## **Counting My Steps**

by Jakov Lind

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading time 7 hours*

Jakov Lind was born in Vienna in 1927. He was proud of being Jewish. Had not his race given to the world Jesus Christ, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud?

With the beginning of Jewish persecution his family escaped to Holland and the young Jakov was boarded out as a child-refugee. With the arrival of the German army, the Jews were once again rounded up for despatch to the death-camps. He eluded capture by hiding in the rafters of a house.

There was, however, one fortuitous circumstance which could mean survival. He had none of the physical characteristics of his race. He could easily pass for a Gentile. He acquired forged papers and as a Dutch citizen, was allowed to work on the barges.

His travels took him deep into Germany but he was never suspected of being anything but a Dutchman with a perfectly valid German-issued Work Permit.

The war over, he once again changed his identity in order to get to Israel. Israel was his spiritual home. There he would re-establish himself as a Jew. He would find peace and an identity.

He found neither. He had lived too long as another person. He felt empty and lost and curiously de-humanised.

This is a fine book, highlighting one of the least-remembered aspects of war, the trauma of the Displaced Person. It is a remarkable work written by a resourceful and articulate man, of the mental anguish of lost identity.

*Cat. No. 353*

## **The Man From Moscow**

by Greville Wynne

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading time 9¼ hours*

Early in the book the author explodes the widely-held belief that "innocent" businessmen are somehow cajoled or coerced by British Intelligence to spy for them behind the Iron Curtain. In the dangerous twilight world of espionage they wouldn't last a week!

True, Greville Wynne was a businessman, and a very successful one. But he was also a highly-trained agent. He had spent many years preparing for one operation—first to contact and then to work with, Oleg (Alex) Penkovski, the Russian patriot who hated what the Bureaucracy were doing to his people.

After their separate arrests, the two men were given a public trial, with the world's press looking on. In actual fact, the "trial" proved to be the usual carefully-staged farce. Mr. Wynne had been warned that if he did not stick closely to the written script, Penkovski would be executed.

Despite the daily interrogations and the appalling conditions of filth and



# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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**From Alex Nesbitt, Teignmouth, Devonshire**

We recently had the entrance hall to our bungalow re-decorated, and the very small man who came to do the work seemed to be a compulsive chatterer. It was disastrous to say more than "Good morning" to him, for he would be down his ladder in a flash, or get up from his position at the skirting board in the twinkling of an eye, given the least opportunity, and from replying to your remarks on the weather, he would progress from one subject to the other so quickly, that one found oneself discoursing on whale hunting, or the winner of the Derby in 1960 or some such; we became dab hands at making up non-existent people at the back door, or sudden violent calls to the toilet to get away from him without appearing too rude.

He told us one day of a blind person he knew, who was an "absolute miracle". This man was totally blind, an R.N.I.B. member, and there was simply nothing he couldn't do . . . decorating (I felt he must think me an idiot having him in to do mine) gardening, shopping, and never anyone to give him the slightest help, but the highlight came when he told us of his skill with the family car.

This wonderful chap had a winding

drive from his house to the gate of some forty yards, and everyday he went down to the garage, opened up the gates, got in and drove the car down this winding path—it had four bends in it too, and left it just inside the gate, all ready for his wife to get into. On this path it was so narrow that there was only four inches between the car and the grass verge, but he had never, never, gone so much as an inch over the verge.

This was a bit much for me to swallow, I said frankly I didn't believe it and that the man must have some sight, but our little decorator would have none of it. "Totally blind he is, as true as I'm standing here", he said, "He'd be willing to drive the car on to the road side, but his wife says she won't let him do that as he might get into trouble through not having a licence."

Now I had a little guiding vision up until six years ago, and I know what difference there is to having that bit of sight, to being in complete darkness, but I don't think I would have been able to do what this chap is said to do even with my bit of sight.

Perhaps I am just not adaptable, and I'd like to know what other St. Dunstaners think of this. Personally I could no more drive a car down a winding drive, completely on my own, than I could fly the Hampden I was on when I was wounded, I think I might have more success with the latter!

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## Reading Time—*continued*

systematic starvation, the British agent was never broken. His loathing and utter contempt for his captors kept him alive—and silent.

This is a very well written book (the author acknowledges the professional help he received) with all the ingredients of the classic spy thriller, "bugging" devices, miniaturised cameras, "dead-letter drops", even a "trade show" caravan with a concealed man-sized hiding-place.

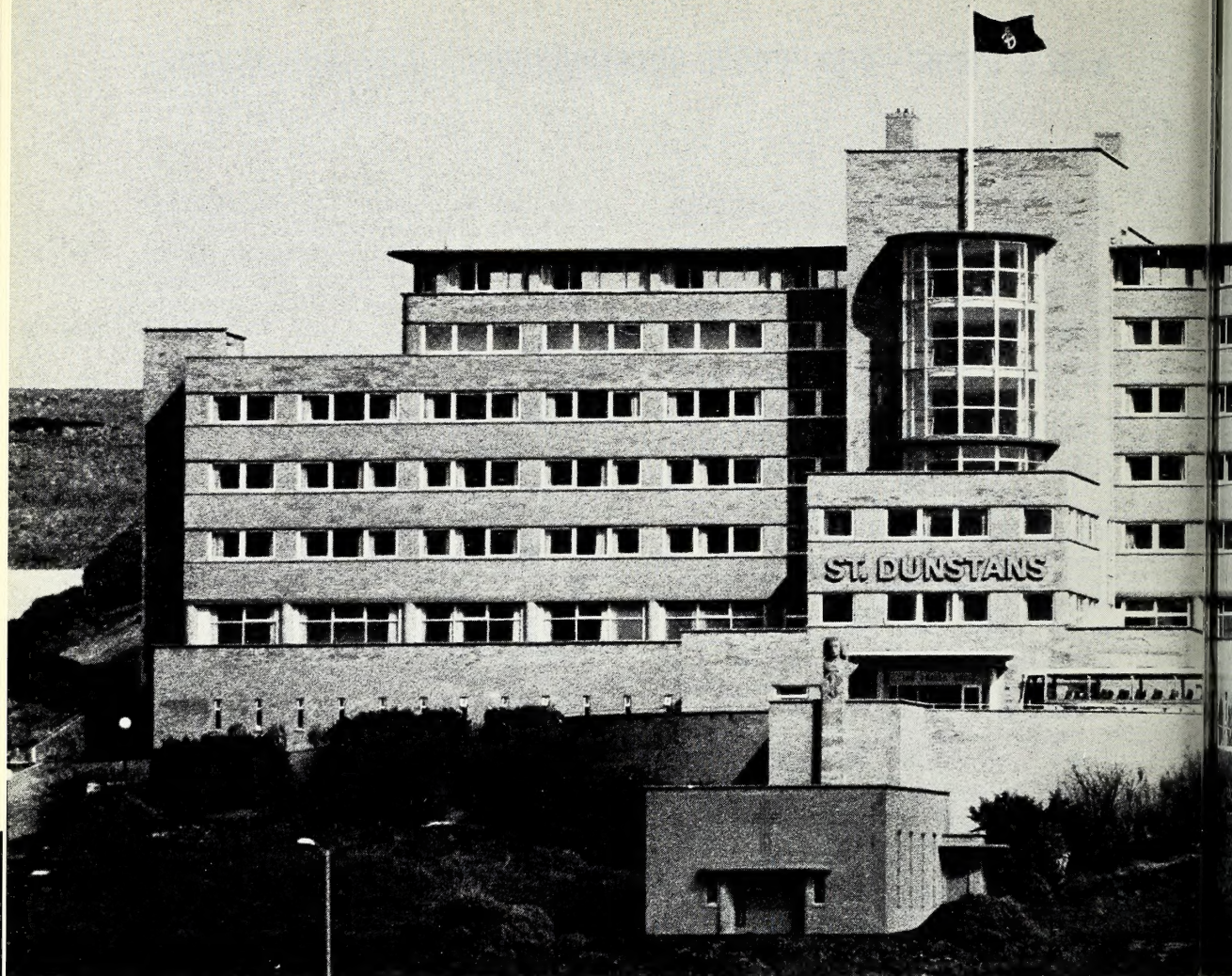
The great difference is that, disturbingly, it happens to be true.

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## BRILLE LITERATURE

A periodical review of orders of Brille Literature is planned to take place during the year through our Welfare Visitors who will assist readers to complete new Order Forms. Meanwhile, however, in view of the very heavy increase in the cost of Brille Periodicals it would be appreciated if St. Dunstaners no longer interested in receiving magazines ordered for them, would kindly ask Mrs. B. Ross at Headquarters to cancel them.





*Ian Fraser House, showing the new wing to the right of the picture.*

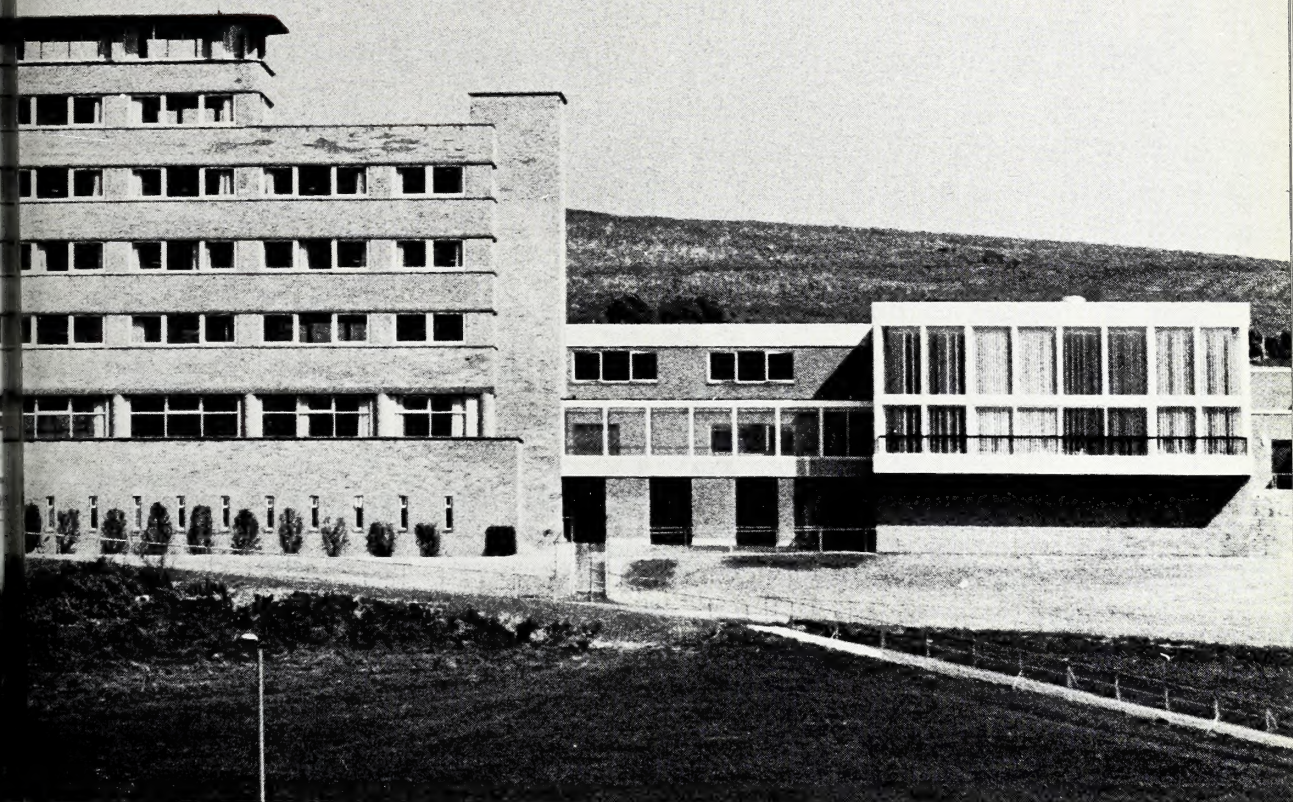
## What's New at Ovingdean?

### A Summary of alterations and additions at Ian Fraser House

Our *Review* opens with a description of the ceremony on 11th April, when Lady Fraser unveiled the commemorative stone which is now in place on the front of Ian Fraser House and in this article we will try to give our readers some idea of the changes that have been made over the past two and a half years to bring living conditions and amenities right up-to-date. These can, we think, be considered as a good investment for the next twenty-five to thirty years or so.

Let us first say that St. Dunstaners who know the building will not find themselves unduly disorientated because, apart from the new South Wing, the principal living rooms and bedrooms are in the same position as they were before the work began, but with detailed changes of layout and furniture. Thus, for example, the lounge, the dining room, the main offices, the winter garden, and the bedrooms are where they have always been so St. Dunstaners who know the





building need have no fear when walking about alone although it would certainly be advisable in the first instance to have the alterations pointed out by a sighted member of the staff.

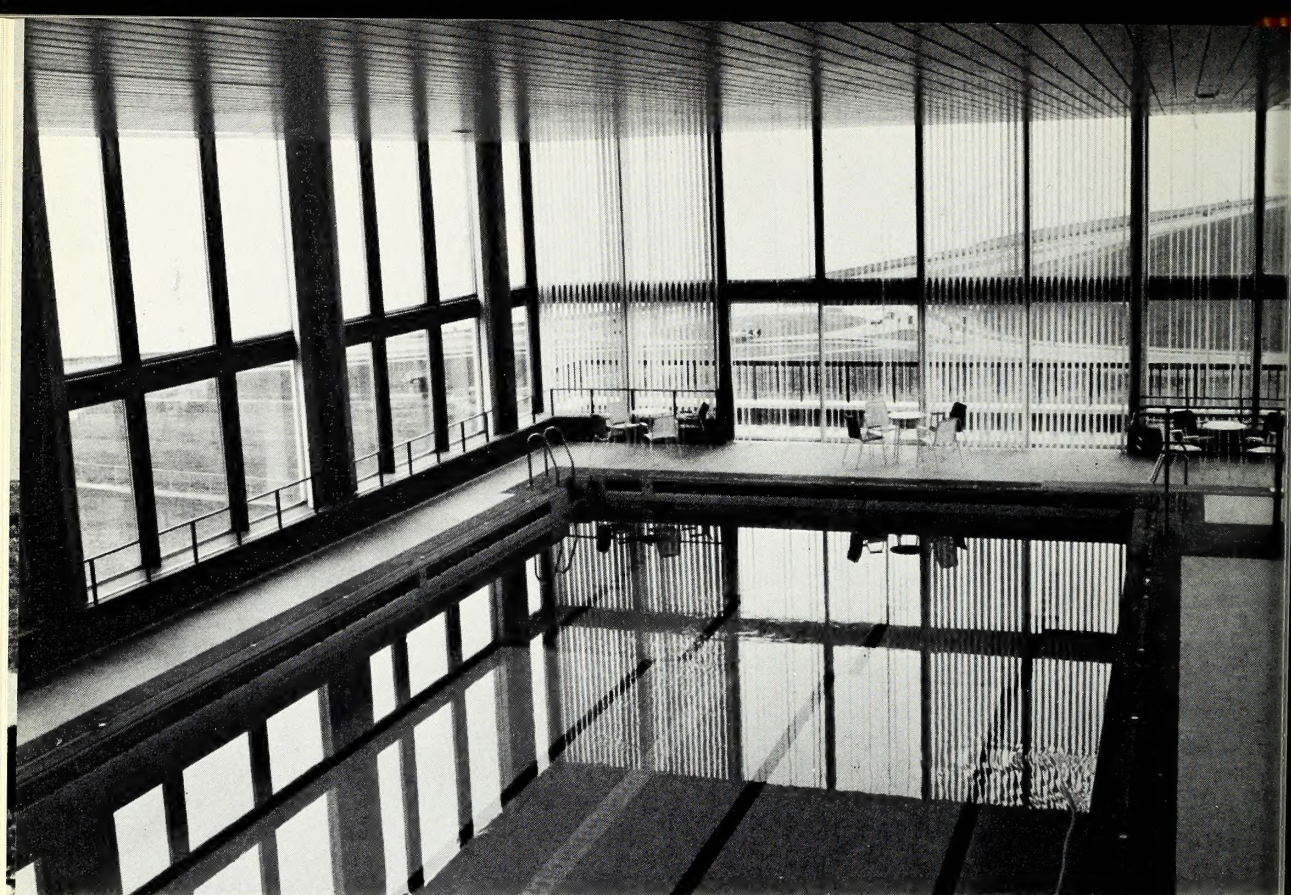
It will thus be appreciated that the Home has not been rebuilt but refurbished. 'Time expired' services, such as lifts, plumbing, heating systems, etc., have been renewed and each bedroom has a fitted washbasin and full length wardrobe. Most of the accommodation is in single rooms although the general layout remains as before.

'Dormitories' become 'Wings' but retain the same numbers—e.g., Bed 8-Dormitory 3 becomes Wing 3 Bed 8. Toilets, baths, showers are now sited midway on each

Wing on the Downs side, away from the sea.

On the Main Floor all the rooms at the front of the building have been brought forward into the Terrace areas and a 'circulation corridor' created so that the Talking Book Rooms and other rooms on that side are reached without braving the outside elements. Similarly, the new sun lounge, quiet lounge, Braille library and typing rooms can be reached without going through the lounge where, incidentally, the 'Desk' has been re-sited between the entrance and the fireplace and changes have been made in the seating arrangements. Along the corridor which is also reached by doors from the lounge, there are now ladies' toilets, in addition to





*A view of the swimming pool from the pool lounge.*



gentlemen's toilets. The end of the corridor gives entrance across the fire-escape stairway to a link corridor into the new annexe.

### **The New Annexe**

The new annexe or South Wing is on two floors. From the link, the circulation corridor turns sharp left. On the right is the window walling of the swimming pool and on the left the industrial and wood-work training workshops. The corridor ends opposite the entrance to the two 100 ft. rink indoor bowls area. Turning right, there are toilets on the left, a staircase to the upper floor, and ahead the gymnasium. The male and female changing rooms are on the right and lead into the swimming pool through foot-baths. The pool is in attractive blue tiling with black terrazzo window columns and

*Left: Lady Fraser, Mrs. Opperman, Lady Ellerman and Mrs. Garnett-Orme in the corridor leading to the workshops and swimming pool.*

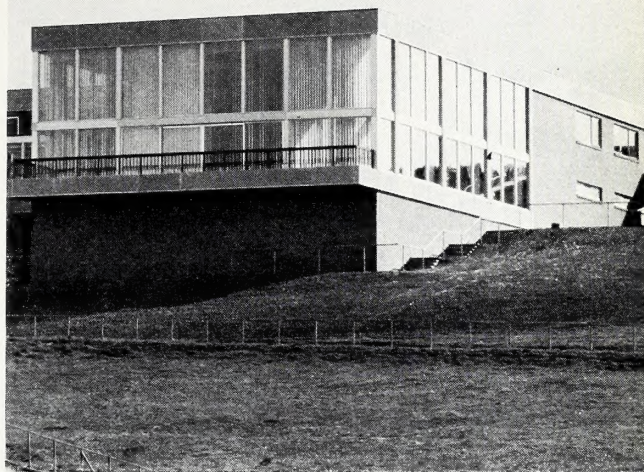


surrounds. It is 60 feet long and  $27\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide and shelves from 3 feet to 9 feet 6 inches at the deep end where there is a diving spring-board. The sides and seaward end of the pool area are in double-glazing 17 feet 6 inches high. Sliding windows at the seaward end open on to a small terrace. On the floor above there is a very large room and a smaller one which can be used for a variety of gatherings. Another room overlooks the whole of the pool. Two rooms are allocated for staff use—a recreation room and sitting room—a facility lacking hitherto, also toilets and a telephone call box. Provision is being made for future requirements of light catering in the annexe.

### The Main Kitchen

The main kitchen and servery have been re-designed and all equipment replaced with up-to-date appliances.

Except for stair-landings, all bedrooms and corridors on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors are carpet covered. Other areas, for example the Quiet Lounge, are similarly furnished. Whilst every effort has been

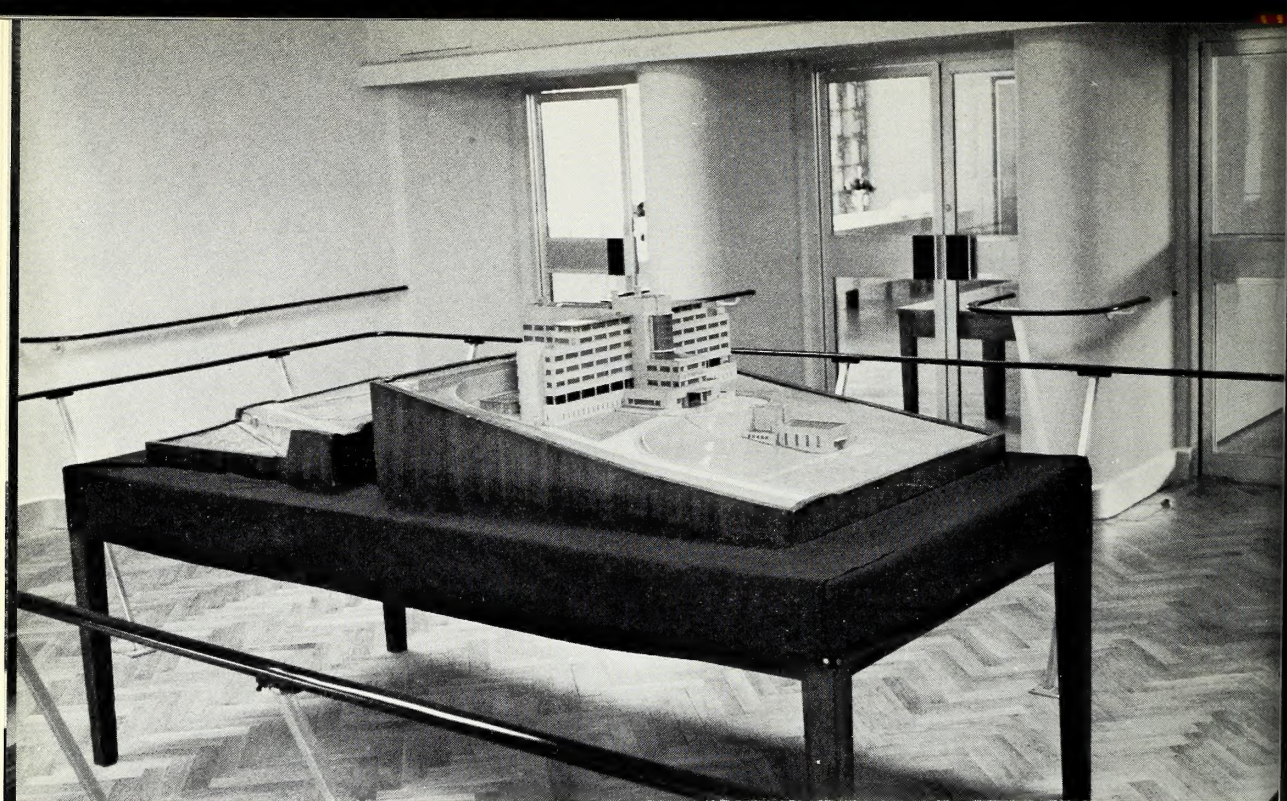


*A closer view of the new wing. The balcony opening off the swimming pool area can be seen.*

*The Pool lounge has a window wall overlooking the swimming pool.*







*Above: The model of the building in its new position on the main floor. The picture, showing the area between the offices and the dining room and the lounge, also captures the brightness of the building in the new decor.*

*Left: A single bedroom showing wardrobe unit, a hand basin with taps adapted for the handless.*



made to use flame-resistant materials in both floorings and curtains and furniture, all must exercise great care to avoid the risk of fire. Recent tragic fires in residential homes have resulted in a much more rigorous approach to fire prevention and compulsory planning requirements have been greatly increased. Door closers, double swing doors, fire resisting doors and their positioning, are obligatory. This means that we have many such doors which, for ease of movement and less confusion, we would rather not have.

The grounds and paths lay-out remains the same as before. A path, with hand-rails, has been added and follows the boundaries of the new Annexe and joins the path at high level above the inner garden wall which leads from the 1st floor fire-escape exit. The inner garden is retained with an extended paved area up to the new Annexe. A car parking area now extends the whole length of the main drive on the left as you drive in.





*The swimming pool is approved by Mr. Garnett-Orme, Miss Guilbert, Lady Fraser, Mr. Harding, Lady Frances Pearson and the Mayoress of Brighton, who is talking with Mr. Peter Avey, our new Lifeguard.*

*The attractive furnishings on the entrance floor.*





## Honour for Tynwald Member

The Isle of Man is governed by legislature called the Tynwald. It consists of two branches, the Legislative Council and the House of Keys. After 18 years service in the House of Keys, *Howard Simcocks M.B.E.* has been elected by the Members to the upper house, the Legislative Council, where he will serve for another eight years.

Only seven members appointed by the House of Keys serve on the Council with the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bishop of Sodor and Man, the First Deemster and the Attorney-General. A well-earned honour for a St. Dunstaner who has given outstanding public service in the Tynwald, one of the most ancient legislative assemblies in the world.

## Orange Badge Scheme

Motoring St. Dunstaners will be interested to learn that under the new regulations effective from 1st June 1975, the orange badge parking scheme for disabled persons is to be extended. "Any blind person registered under the National Assistance Act 1948 will be eligible for a badge for use in vehicles in which he is travelling as a passenger. This concession is for a one-year trial period, after which there will be a review of its effect on road safety.

"Except when there is a ban on loading or unloading or in a bus lane, cars displaying the orange badge will be able to park even on yellow lines for an unlimited period (as at present) in Scotland and for two hours in England and Wales. The period will be measured by the setting of a special orange parking disc at the time of arrival at the kerbside. The only other change is that a new and brighter orange badge for display on windscreens and on the rear of vehicles will be available from county councils and London borough councils. The only areas outside the new regulations are the cities of London and Westminster, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and part of the London Borough of Camden but each of these will continue to operate their own concessionary schemes for disabled people who live or work in their areas".

## BRIDGE NOTES

### BRIDGE CONGRESS 1975

On Thursday 13th March, 1975, a party of St. Dunstaners, with their wives and escorts, arrived at Victoria Station to travel to the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, to take part in their Annual Bridge Congress and Instructional Class. On arrival at the Hotel, they were met by the rest of the party, who had travelled from various parts of the country, which included a strong contingent from Brighton, making approximately a total of 60 people.

After settling in, the Congress began on Friday morning with all the usual events taking place, with the results as shown at the end of this Report.

Saturday evening the 36th A.G.M. of the Bridge Club took place, with the Commandant in the Chair. After a lively discussion, during which views were aired to a considerable extent, the election for the Officers and Committee took place, with the following results:

**Jerry Lynch** Captain  
**Sammy Webster** Treasurer  
**Harry Meleson** Secretary

with a Committee of Les Douglass, Harry King, Bill Allen, Bob Fullard, representing the Brighton area.

Bob Evans and Paul Nuyens were warmly thanked for all their help in the past.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Commandant for presiding.

On Monday afternoon the Mayoress, Mrs. Sheldon, arrived to present the prizes to the lucky winners, which duty she carried out most graciously. Vi Delaney, on behalf of the Club, then presented the Mayoress with a bouquet of flowers, after which tea was served.

None of these events could have taken place without the able assistance of Mr. Alf Fields and Mr. Jeff C. Connell both very good friends of St. Dunstons.

**H. MELESON**  
Secretary



## Bridge Congress Results

The list of winners is as follows:

### SIR ARTHUR PEARSON CUPS

#### TEAMS OF FOUR

- 1st J. Lynch—W. Miller  
A. Smith—T. J. Simmons  
2nd W. Allen—R. Freer  
R. Bickley—F. Dickerson

#### PAIRS

- 1st W. Lethbridge—W. Claydon  
2nd J. Lynch—W. Miller  
3rd W. Allen—R. Freer  
4th W. Phillips—R. Evans  
5th P. Nuyens—A. Caldwell  
6th A. Smith—T. J. Simmons

#### DRUMMER DOWNS CUP

- 1st R. Freer—J. Padley  
2nd A. Smith—H. King  
3rd R. Bickley—R. Armstrong

#### LORD FRASER CUP—INDIVIDUALS

- 1st J. Lynch  
2nd W. Allen  
3rd W. Claydon  
4th R. Freer  
5th W. Miller  
6th W. Lethbridge

#### GOVER MEMORIAL CUPS—INDIVIDUALS

- Brighton R. A. Fullard  
London W. Freer

### BRIDGE DRIVES

#### FIRST BRIDGE DRIVE

- 1st E. Carpenter—F. Rhodes  
2nd Mrs. Claydon—Mrs. Phillips  
3rd Mrs. Smith—Mrs. King

#### SECOND BRIDGE DRIVE

- 1st H. King—Mrs. King  
2nd R. A. Fullard—Mrs. Fullard  
3rd H. Ward—J. Carney

#### THIRD BRIDGE DRIVE

- 1st H. King—Mrs. King  
2nd Miss V. Kemmish—Partner  
3rd W. Allen—Partner

### Brighton

The fourth Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 5th April. The results were as follows:

R. A. Fullard and F. Griffiee	76
J. Simmons and C. Walters	72
E. Bedford and M. Clements	71
W. Lethbridge and W. Scott	68
W. Claydon and R. Goding	61
S. Webster and R. Bickley	55
A. Smith and A. Dodgson	54
J. Whitcombe and W. Burnett	47

## CLUB NEWS

### LONDON

The Football Pontoon which ended on 29th March, 1975, was shared by W. Allen and W. Miller, whose teams were Newcastle and Leicester respectively. Our "booby" prize was won by Mrs. Pacitti with Hull.

Our winners of Domino Games in March were as follows:

6th March C. Hancock; W. Miller  
20th March C. Hancock; W. Miller

W. MILLER

### ST. DUNSTAN'S LEAVES SOUTH AUDLEY STREET

On 22nd April the Chairman's office and staff at 1, South Audley Street moved into St. Dunstan's Headquarters at 191, Old Marylebone Road. Letters and other communications including those for Mr. Garnett-Orme and Lady Fraser, should, therefore, in future be addressed to Headquarters.

### ENTERTAINMENTS

Owing to the heavy increase in postal charges, it is impossible to write individually to St. Dunstaners living in the Brighton area. However, may we take this opportunity of extending to all of you the warmest of welcomes to the Dances, Concerts, Discussions etc., which will take place at Ian Fraser House from 5th May, 1975. Details will be published each month in the "Ovingdean Notes".

Mrs. D. E. WILLIAMS  
Entertainments Officer

### BRIDGE NOTES—Continued

#### London

The third Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 5th April. The results were as follows:-

W. Allen and J. Huk	77
P. Nuyens and J. Padley	73
Miss Vera Kemmish and Partner	61
F. Dickerson and H. Meleson	56
J. Lynch and J. Majchrowicz	50

H. MELESON  
Secretary



## ROUND THE WORLD

by C. E. Johnston

In 1959 I returned to Australia with my wife and two sons, having completed my training with St. Dunstan's in physiotherapy. I vowed then that some day I would go back to St. Dunstan's, and finally the opportunity came last year when I decided to attend the World Congress of Physical Therapy in Montreal, continuing on to England and Europe.

### Arrive—Sunday

It was a Sunday evening when we arrived in London from Spain. Within the first hour Lord and Lady Fraser telephoned to welcome us back! It was fifteen years since my wife and I had left, but immediately we felt at home again, as if we had never been away. Everyone seemed the same (though I was told that we all looked just a little older) and old friendships were resumed so easily and warmly. So it was unbelievable, that only four months after leaving England we were told of Lord Fraser's sudden death. We were privileged to be entertained by him and Lady Fraser at the House of Lords, and also in their home, and I am deeply grateful that the fulfilment of our hoped for trip allowed me to be in the company of this great man again.

### Round-The-World-Ticket

In planning our four months away, we took advantage of a round-the-world air ticket, enabling us to stop-over at any point, and travel by other means when it suited. From Melbourne and Sydney we flew to Vancouver, which made us realise how vast the Pacific Ocean is. In all we had three weeks in Canada. Vancouver and the Canadian Rockies were highlights, also a visit to Niagara Falls, on the way to Montreal and the Physiotherapy Conference.

The conference was reported in the August *Review* by Bill Shea who was a member of the St. Dunstan's group from U.K. I was delighted to meet Mr. Priestley again, also members of the party which included our old friends, Mike and Thelma Tetley.

In our travels in Europe one memorable experience was a four day trip down the Rhine in one of the river boats, or better described as a miniature luxury liner. It

was very restful but most interesting too, as there is always something happening on that crowded river.

Everywhere in England it was tremendous to renew friendships with many St. Dunstaners. We were so pleased to be invited to the London Reunion and were delighted to meet Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme, also Mr. Wills, at whose table we sat. At the Lee-on-Solent camp it was David Bell, Jimmy Wright and Stewart Spence, who supervised my initiation into this unique event. Some had warned I would not survive the week. I did, and what is more I enjoyed all the activities, and have many fond memories of Mrs. Spurway and her wonderful team of Camp helpers.

### Return Journey

The final two weeks in U.K. was a touring trip of Scotland, which we shared with Jane and Charles Williamson, and a brief stop-over with David and Sibyl Bell in Edinburgh.

The return to Australia was via South Africa where we were able to visit Hluhluwe and Kruger Game Reserves between Durban and Johannesburg. Having been in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia during the war, I was keen to go there again, and meet some old friends. The tour of the Game Parks was one of the unforgettable features of our whole trip.

And so home to Melbourne early in October, and back to work in my practice—hard to believe we are thirteen thousand miles from England and our friends in St. Dunstan's.

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## OBITUARY

St. Dunstaners who trained at Church Stretton will be sorry to learn of the death at Portsmouth Royal Infirmary of *Jacques Brown* on 3rd April, following a motor accident. Starting his career as a musician, he turned to radio comedy and, as producer, he was responsible for the series in which Kenneth Horne and Richard Murdoch starred, "Much Binding in the Marsh", "Beyond our Ken", and "Round the Horne". He retired from the B.B.C. in 1960. During the war, while still working for the B.B.C., Jacques Brown was responsible for arranging for many famous broadcasting stars to visit and perform at St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton.



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

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To paraphrase an old saying—March came in like a lion and went out like a Polar bear. On Good Friday snow mantled the landscape and, although it looked attractive, it spelled disaster to the weekly Drive, which had to be cancelled.

At the start of the month, our first guest entertainer was our good friend, Mr. Michael Hayes. He entertained us with a most varied collection of records, ranging from the glorious voice of Joan Sutherland to the splendidly world-weary tones of the late Tony Hancock. Literally, from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Our next guests were the Rottingdean Drama Society, who gave a dynamic, fast-moving reading of the comedy "Fools' Paradise". It was good to hear the hearty laughter of the audience.

Record concerts were given this month by V.A.D.'s Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Biggs, who presented contrasting programmes, both of which were much enjoyed.

A small party of men and escorts visited Roedean School at the invitation of the Headmaster for a performance by the girls of "Oh! What a Lovely War!" We were intrigued by the choice of a satire on war, a far from easy subject for young people to interpret. However, they performed very well, some of the songs being particularly moving. A sweet, young voice singing "Keep The Home Fires Burning" brought a lump into many a throat. The audience was quick to appreciate the talents of the cast and orchestra, and the excellence of the production as a whole.

On the evening of Good Friday, it had been planned to present a programme of music and verse, given by Mr. Tom Eales, Mrs. J. Dennis and Mrs. D. Williams. To our sorrow, Tom was ill and unable to take part. Perhaps, with snow lying on the ground, it was appropriate that "Portrait of Spring" had to be postponed! Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Williams hurriedly started again from scratch and presented a programme entitled "Music, Verse—and

Worse!". You must admit that the title at least was designed to disarm criticism!

On Easter Sunday, our valued friends, Mr. and Mrs. Lilley, came from Seaford with their young friends to entertain us with the comedy "Sailor Beware". Although the play was already known to many of the audience, it was very much enjoyed, for the cast played it at a fast pace, and the laughter and applause were well-earned. Leslie May gave an entertaining speech of thanks on our behalf.

The last day of the month was Easter Monday and we held our usual Dance, with buffet and bar. It was well attended, and we had the great pleasure of welcoming Mrs. John O'Hara, who had kindly agreed to judge the entries and present the prizes in the Easter Bonnet Competition. She was accompanied by our well-loved Dr. O'Hara, who, on this occasion, played the role of Consort to perfection! As always, the V.A.D. staff had worked hard to produce some very original creations, both for the men and for themselves, and we thank them sincerely for the time, expense and effort which they put into the project. The winners were:

## Ladies

Miss M. Ball  
Miss T. Meredith  
Mrs. W. Edwards  
Mrs. D. Highcock (V.A.D.)  
Mrs. J. McMaster (V.A.D.)  
Mrs. J. Wood (V.A.D.)

## Men

E. Astbury  
G. Bowen  
E. Daniels  
R. Hyett  
J. Langley  
L. May

As these notes are being written, frost is twinkling on the grass and in the trees. Perhaps the April notes will be written in warm, Spring sunshine—please?



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold* of Keighley, Yorks, are pleased to announce the marriage of their younger son, Derek, on 8th March, 1975, to Hilary Smallwood.

Ralph David, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Arthur David* of St. Athan, Glamorgan, went to Australia about a year ago. He came home to see his parents last Christmas bringing with him his bride of three days. Ralph married Mary Manning in Tasmania on 18th December, 1974 and they came to Britain for two months' honeymoon. The young couple were given a reception and presents by people in the village before they returned to Australia.

*Mr. and Mrs. Denis Freeman* of Coventry are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Ann to Christopher Pyke at St. Mary Magdalen, Wyke Parish Church, on 31st March, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ron Homewood* of Roughton, Norwich, have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their fourth daughter, Susan, who married Michael Bensley of Orchard Farm, Roughton, on 5th April, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Stuart* of Barking, Essex, have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter Suzanne to Michael Cook at St. Margaret's Church, Barking, on 22nd March, 1975, which was the bride's 22nd birthday anniversary.

*Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Watson* of Aldridge, Staffs., are pleased to announce

that their daughter, June, married Patrick Thomas Sweeney at St. Mary's Parish Church, Aldridge, on 22nd March, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wood* of Brentwood, Essex, have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their younger daughter, Marilyn to Andrew Wait on 29th March, 1975.

## Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Claude Lightfoot* of Reading, Berks., who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary on 20th April, 1975.

## Golden Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. George Millen* of Birchington-on-Sea, Kent, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 13th April, 1975.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:

*Louis Androlia* of Great Barr, Birmingham, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of a grandson, Simon Christopher, born on 8th March, 1975, to his son Christopher and daughter-in-law, Pam.

*William Arnold* of Keighley, Yorks., has pleasure in announcing the birth of another grandson—Andrew born on 8th January, 1975, to Pat and Barry.

*Jim Hancock* of Ipswich, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his first grandchild—Kate, born to his daughter Jane, and his son-in-law, Christopher, on 1st April, 1975.



*Joseph Humphrey* of Belfast, is pleased to announce the birth of a second grandson, born to his daughter, Angela Carnson. David Andrew was born on 2nd March, 1975.

*Cecil Wilson* of Brough, East Yorks., who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of a grand-daughter—Deborah, born on 9th February, 1975, to his daughter Judith and son-in-law Michael.

*Robert Wood* of Colindale, N.W.9, on the safe arrival of a second grandchild—Cathrine May, born to his son Robert and daughter-in-law, Beverley, on 17th March, 1975 in Sydney, Australia.

*George Baldwin* of East Molesey, Surrey, is pleased to report that his son Gary, aged 13, has won a cup for the one length sprint, also the boy's championship cup for swimming the backstroke at Streatham baths.

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## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Thomas James Slater* of Bethnal Green, London, E.2. on the death of his wife, Mrs. Alice Slater, who died after a brief illness on 28th March, 1975. We also extend our sympathy to Thomas's son and married daughter and family with whom he is staying temporarily.

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## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

### **James Ballantyne.** *Royal Engineers*

James Ballantyne of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, died suddenly on 5th April, 1975 shortly before his 100th birthday which he had hoped to celebrate on 28th June.

He enlisted in 1915 in the company of the Royal Army Service Corps, attached to the Royal Engineers. He was subsequently wounded at Loos in 1916 and joined St. Dunstan's in the same year.

He was married with five children but had been a widower since 1934. For over thirty years he lived as one of the family with Mrs. Joyce Tye and in whose home he passed away.

He leaves his children, Mrs. Tye and her married daughter and her husband, who cared and nursed our St. Dunstaner until the end.

### **Thomas Connolly.** *Royal Irish Regiment*

Thomas Connolly of Enniscorthy Co. Wexford Eire, died in hospital on 21st March, 1975. He was 87 years old.

He enlisted in the Royal Irish Regiment in 1912 and served with them until his discharge in 1920. He received eye injuries whilst being taken prisoner of war in October 1914 but by the time he joined St. Dunstan's in August 1974, he had

retired from his work for many years. Although a widower he lived alone but was fortunate in having members of his family living close by who cared for him. Although his health was only fair he did enjoy a few outings in his locality, when the weather permitted, to meet and talk to old friends. Sadly Thomas became seriously ill on 19th March and died in hospital just two days later.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Broaders and other members of his family.

### **John Llewellyn Davies.** *First War, Royal Welch Fusiliers; Second War, Civil Defence*

John Llewellyn Davies of Killay, Swansea, died at his home on 25th March, 1975, at the age of 80 years.

He was commissioned in the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1918 but it was during the last war that he sustained eye injuries whilst extinguishing an incendiary bomb during his service as an Air Raid Warden whilst serving with the Civil Defence. He was at Church Stretton for a little while but it was not until October 1973 that he joined St. Dunstan's and by that time he had retired for some years from the Civil Service.

Although he did not enjoy the best of health he came to the Bristol Reunion last year, accompanied by his wife. He suffered a set back in health in the Autumn and in February of this year it was necessary for him to undergo an operation in hospital and he was discharged home. Sadly his condition deteriorated.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Haidee Davies.



**William Harry Hines. *Warwickshire Regiment***

William Harry Hines of King's Heath, Birmingham, died in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, on 12th March, 1975. He was 89 years old.

He enlisted in the Warwickshire Regiment in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1917. He was wounded in France in 1917 and joined St. Dunstan's the same year. After training in boot repairing and mat making he established himself in shop premises from which he traded successfully. After some five years William gave up his mat making and combined boot repairing with the sale of new shoes. Although he was never a very robust man he continued in his business for many years.

He enjoyed many holidays with us at our Blackpool and Brighton Homes over the years. After the death of his wife, in 1967, William was cared for by his bachelor son Bill, especially in more recent years when he became very frail in health. At the beginning of March he was admitted to hospital and it was there he passed away a few days later.

He leaves two sons and a daughter.

**Edward Kershaw. *Nottingham and Derbyshire Regiment***

Edward Kershaw of Kirby-in-Ashfield, Notts., died at his home on 31st March 1975. He was 83 years of age.

He enlisted in the Nottingham and Derbyshire Regiment during the First World War and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He received eye injuries when he was wounded in 1916 but it was not until some forty years later that his sight failed completely and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1962, by which time he had retired and he did not undertake any hobby training.

His health was not very good at times but he enjoyed a quiet life at home with his wife and their son Jack, and he made a successful recovery from an operation during the latter part of last year.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Kershaw and their two sons and their daughter.

**John Martin. *6th Dragoon Guards***

John Martin of Penzance, Cornwall, died on 1st April, 1975 at the age of 84 years.

He enlisted in the 6th Dragoon Guards in 1917 and served with them until his discharge in May 1918 when he came to St. Dunstan's. As John had been a farmer prior to his entry into the Dragoon Guards it was natural that he would prefer to continue with this occupation when he was discharged from Army service. He underwent a period of rehabilitation at St. Dunstan's following his loss of sight, and was then resettled as a poultry farmer. In addition, he was taught netting and mat work.

Throughout his active life, John was able to run quite a fair-sized farm, including livestock until 1948 when he moved to a small holding cutting down on the animal stock. Soon afterwards he and his wife went into semi-retirement, but they continued their interest in the garden which was beautifully maintained whilst, at the same time, they kept a limited number of poultry.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Minnie Martin and a grown-up family.

**Stanislaw Milewski. *1st Polish Armoured Division***

Stanislaw Milewski of Coventry, Warwickshire died at his home, on 3rd April, 1975, at the age of 59 years.

He enlisted in the Polish Armoured Division in 1940 under British Command and served with them until his discharge in 1949.

Although it was not until 1968 that Stanislaw became a full St. Dunstaner, he did undertake industrial training at Ovingdean in 1952, after which he commenced work in a factory in Cirencester, later moving to Swindon. He was excellent at his job and he continued in industry until 1973 when unfortunately his health failed and this necessitated his retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Milewski then moved to Coventry to be near their married son, Stanislaw, who has a teaching post there. Their daughter Yvonne has just entered the final phase of her studies at Sussex University. Both Mr. and Mrs. Milewski were extremely proud of their children's academic achievements and were looking forward to attending Yvonne's Graduation Ceremony in July. Sadly, Stanislaw was suddenly taken ill on 3rd April and his death followed almost immediately.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Genowefa Milewski and their two children.

**Leslie Charles Pezzack. *Royal Corps of Signals***

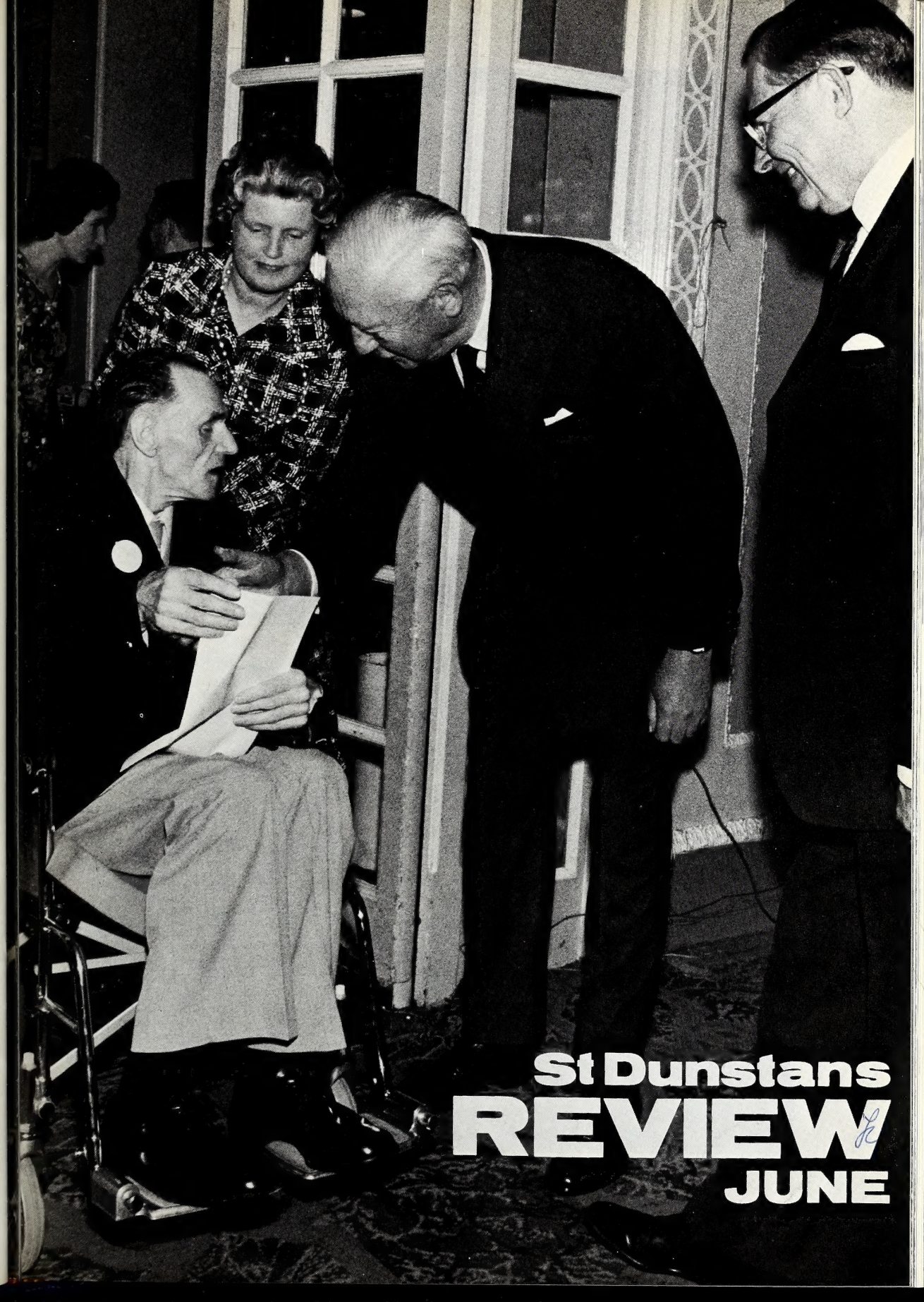
Leslie Charles Pezzack of Cardiff, South Wales, died at his home on 23rd March, 1975. He was 60 years of age.

He enlisted in the Cardiff Territorials in 1933 and served with the Royal Corps of Signals in the Second World War when he was wounded in a mine explosion in March, 1943. Nevertheless he was able to follow an employment up until 1968 when he came to St. Dunstan's. He had just retired from work with the Cardiff Corporation Transport Department. His health prevented Leslie from taking any further training after coming to St. Dunstan's, but he always took a keen interest in his garden and music was another hobby from which he derived much pleasure. He also attended regularly the disabled people's club in his area and he and his wife were looking forward to an early Spring holiday with the club in May.

His death occurred very suddenly when he collapsed in his garden.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Kathleen Pezzack.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**JUNE**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 664

JUNE 1975

5p MONTHLY

## PHYSIOTHERAPY CONFERENCE 1975

by Harry J. Davis

**Chairman of the Physiotherapy Advisory Committee**

The week-end 2nd-4th May saw the return to Ovingdean of the Physiotherapy Conference. It was notable for three things. The welcome of our new Physiotherapy President, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, St. Dunstan's Chairman, the first Conference to be held since the re-opening of Ovingdean, and the reception of our guest of honour, Lord Hunt of Fawley, C.B.E., M.A., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., who is a member of St. Dunstan's Council.

It was a must to go on a tour of inspection. All the innovations, that is the

refurnished and carpeted bedrooms, the new sun lounge, typing room, Braille library, quiet lounge and, of course, the magnificent swimming pool were all noted with satisfaction and approval.

The business of the morning was preceded by the welcome to our new President. The morning lecture was given by Mr. S. Rose-Neil, F.Ac.A., on Acupuncture which proved to be of great interest and provoked some lively exchanges with members at question time. After lunch, Mrs. B. Goff, O.N.C., M.C.S.P., Dip. T.P.,

*Harry Davis opens the 1975 Physiotherapy Conference at Ian Fraser House. Also in the picture, Mr. Garnett-Orme and Mr. Wills.*







*Peter Spencer and Freddie Collingwood size up an ultra sonic machine with the aid of a representative of Electro-Medical Supplies.*

initiated us into the mysteries of the Rood Technique with vigour and enthusiasm. Mr. P. R. Wells, M.C.S.P., Dip. T.P., followed with a lecture on Manipulative Therapy, Maitland Technique.

The dinner on Saturday evening had all the ingredients for success, good food, good wine and good company. Our President, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme and our guest of honour, Lord Hunt regaled us with speeches of Champagne quality which were enthusiastically received. Harry Foster paid sincere and adequate tribute to St. Dunstan's emphasising how magnificently the Commandant, Matron and Staff had overcome the difficulties which had beset them during the re-opening process.

The Commandant replied belittling the troubles with becoming modesty. Dinner was followed by dancing to the music of an excellent band, with facilities for renewing energy being provided by the bar.

Two of our members helped at the Church service on Sunday. Les Webber at the organ and Alan Wortley who read the lesson. The well known hymns were lustily rendered and the Padre gave us a good sermon. Flowers had been placed in the Chapel by the Physiotherapists in memory of our Founder, our late Chairman and President and our departed colleagues.

The final lecture on Sunday was given by our own Mike Tetley, M.B.E., B.Sc., M.C.S.P., whose subject was "Introduction to Cranial movements". It was a well thought out and well delivered talk, showing Mike to be a man of an enquiring mind, equipped with the energy and industry to find the answers.

In conclusion our thanks and appreciation are due to the Commandant, Matron and Staff of Ian Fraser House who made our "home-coming" such an enjoyable success.

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**COVER PICTURE:** *Mr. Garnett-Orme welcomes St. Dunstaner, Cyril Sedman to the Manchester Reunion. Joining in the greeting are Mr. Wills and Miss Broughton.*



## COMING EVENTS

### Ian Fraser House

The following events will take place at Ian Fraser House this month—local St. Dunstaners and their wives will be warmly welcomed:

June

- 1st Sunday Evening Concert
- 2nd Weekly Dance, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- 8th The Nucleus Theatre Group present "The Importance of being Earnest".
- 9th Weekly Dance
- 16th Weekly Dance
- 22nd A programme of stereo music presented by Mr. Tom Eales
- 23rd Weekly Dance
- 29th Weekly Evening Concert
- 30th Weekly Dance

Announcements will also be made at the Brighton Club.

### Sports Weekend at Brighton

The St. Dunstan's Sports for 1975 has been arranged for June, Saturday 21st. and Sunday 22nd. If you have not already received your entry form and wish to participate please contact me at Ian Fraser House right away.

**JOCK CARNOCHAN**  
*Sports Officer*

### BBC RADIO 4

On 22nd June (Sunday) at 11.10 a.m. on BBC Radio 4 and at 10.25 a.m. BBC Scotland, Kenneth More will make an appeal on behalf of the National Federation of Far East P.O.W. Clubs and Associations.

**BILL GRIFFITHS**

### LOST PROPERTY

Found outside Ian Fraser House on Monday, 5th May, about 2 p.m., one lady's watch. Please apply to Matron Blackford if this is yours.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations to *Harry Wheeler* of Merton Park, London, S.W.20, who has now been appointed County Vice-President of the British Legion.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Colonel Charles Harington Bowker**, of Sherborne, Dorset, joined St. Dunstan's in April, 1975. He is married and lives in retirement, having left the Regular Army in 1957 after more than 30 years' service.

**John David Carmichael**, of Wallingford, Oxon, joined St. Dunstan's in May, 1975. He was commissioned and served in the Royal Air Force in the Second War and is an economist and journalist. He is married with one married daughter.

**Colin Charles Kennedy Dyett**, of Winchester, Hants, joined St. Dunstan's in April, 1975. He was an electrical and mechanical engineer and a Regular Soldier, who served and was commissioned in the R.A.O.C. and R.E.M.E. for 25 years, which included Second War service in India and Burma. He is married and lives quietly in retirement.

**Harold Greenhalgh** of Bolton, Lancs, became a full St. Dunstaner in April, 1975. He served in the Royal Horse Artillery in the Second World War and is a bachelor. He hopes to be going to Brighton shortly for a course of retraining.

**Arthur Purser** of Bethnal Green, London, E2 became a full St. Dunstaner in April, 1975. He served in the Royal Norfolk Regiment in the 2nd World War and was unfortunately a prisoner of war in the Far East. Since his discharge from the Army in 1946 he has worked in various jobs and for some time was employed at a well known retail stores. He is married.

*Arnold Clarke* of Liverpool is proud to report that his grandson Paul has recently won a Gold Medal for scoring the winning goal which has put his school's football team at the top of their league.



# NEW SWIMMING POOL

by Jock Carnochan - Sports Officer

The swimming bath is part of the extension to Ian Fraser House or to give it its proper title, part of the Annexe, which is situated on the South end of the South wing of the original building, i.e., the wing that points to the sea and coast road.

It comprises two floors and a basement, the basement being the Plant Room which houses the filtration plant, the main floor comprises Training Workshops, two Bowling Rinks, Gymnasium, Swimming Bath and changing rooms. The first floor comprises Swimming pool lounge and St. Dunstan's and Staff recreation facilities.

## Double Entrance Doors

The main double entrance doors to the swimming bath surrounds is opposite the stairs leading to the pool lounge, these doors are kept locked and are for Bath Staff entrance only. On either side of the main entrance doors is, on the right or north, the Ladies entrance to the changing room, and on the left, or south, the entrance to the Gents' changing room, door handle on the left for the Ladies and right for Gents. Each dressing room comprises four changing cubicles, lock up clothes lockers, showers and toilets.

## Changing Rooms

The entrance from the changing rooms to the bath surrounds is by way of a footbath, with a 6" step down/up. As you step out of the footbath you are facing the length of the bath, looking west towards Brighton with the shallow end nearest to you approx. 3 paces distance, the Ladies being on the right hand or north side and the Gents left hand or south side of the shallow end.

Immediately on the Ladies right and Gents left is a hand rail. If the Ladies keep the hand rail on their right hand and the Gents on their left hand you have approx. 3 yards distance to the shallow end corners, at this point the Ladies turn left, the Gents right pointing you in the direction of the length of the bath again.

As you proceed west along the rails

you will encounter letters and figures in relief, on the north rail right hand side, the letters will read correctly, the first one being E indicating opposite is the steps entrance into the shallow end, the next being 4 indicating the depth of water opposite is 4' deep with a further 5 and 6 as you proceed. Should you enter the pool opposite the 6' mark you will notice underfoot rough tiles indicating the sharp drop or shelf into the deep end.

## Spring Diving Board

After the 6' mark on the north rail comes the letter D indicating you are opposite the 1 metre spring diving board which has two steps up and a hand rail either side extending to the edge of the pool leaving approx. two further paces to the end of the board to feel with your feet. The board points across the deep end width, approx. 9' from the deep end wall on your right and 6' from the deep end shelf on your left.

After the D on the hand rail your last indicator is another E opposite the steps entrance into the deep end. The markings on the south rail are the same excepting the D for diving board. Continue west after the last E brings you to the corner of the deep end turning inwards to face north and south, continuing for a couple more paces when it ends with a gap of approx. 16' which is the sliding doors leading out to the balcony.

It can now be noted that the steps entrances to the bath are situated at each corner on the length sides of the bath, the steps being set in to the wall with a step up and forward on the top one to the bath side.

## Footbath

In each footbath there is a shower with the temperature set, operated by a chain pull, the main purpose to wash off any bath water which has a small residue of chlorine and alum necessary in all public swimming baths, however there is another shower in the changing rooms with variable water control taps should you wish a further shower, all showers are finally operated by a chain pull with a



# General Information and Guidance for your Safety

## **SUPERVISION**

All users of the swimming bath are under the supervision of Mr. Carnochan and Mr. Avey, both qualified in life saving. NO ONE is to use the swimming bath unless either of the above are in attendance.

## **CLEANLINESS**

No smoking is to take place in the dressing rooms or bath surrounds. If you wish to smoke during a swimming session, the balcony at the deep end is available (weather permitting) and is equipped with tables, chairs and ash trays.

Bathers are to pass through the foot bath before entering the bath surrounds.

## **ENTRANCES**

The main entrance to the swimming bath surrounds will be kept locked, and is for the use of Bath Staff only. Bathers are to use the respective entrances, Ladies and Gents on either side of the main entrance.

## **SPECTATORS**

Spectators are to use the Observation Room, situated above the dressing rooms, with access by way of the stairs opposite the main bath entrance.

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## **NEW SWIMMING POOL**

### *continued*

ring on the end suitable for double arm amputees.

## **POOL LOUNGE**

Above the changing rooms there is a pool lounge where spectators can watch the bathing through glass partitions, looking down the length of the bath from shallow to deep end.

## **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

For the technically minded, the bath size is 60' long by 28' wide, depth 3' grading down to 6' with a 9' deep end and diving area. Pool capacity 63,480 gallons, complete circulation taking 4 hours, at a rate of 15,870 gallons per hour. The water is filtered through a 6' 6" diameter filter containing Magna dol and sand, filtrating at a rate of 455 gallons per square foot per hour. As an aid to keeping the water healthy Chlorine gas is introduced daily according to the number using the water, and Alum is also introduced as an aid to filtration.

## **DRESSING ROOMS**

Dressing rooms are equipped with changing cubicles and lock up lockers for clothes stowage after changing, toilets and showers. The toilet and shower with the sliding door is for the use of bathers using wheel chairs. If you are resident in Ian Fraser House it is advisable to change in your room and proceed to the bath wearing dressing gown and slippers. Bathers who have to change in the dressing rooms are advised to place their clothes in a locker, and deposit the key with the duty bath supervisor.

## **VALUABLES**

You are reminded that the management will not be responsible for the loss or damage of your property.

## **MEDICAL**

If you suffer from any skin complaint, or indeed any medical complaint that could be aggravated by the presence of Chlorine or Alum which is necessary in the water, you are advised to obtain medical clearance from your Doctor.

## **SAFETY**

The use of Snorkels, Flippers and Face Masks with glass screens IS NOT PERMITTED.

## **DIVING**

The one metre diving board points across the bath with a depth of 9' 10" of water. The board is of a plastic material, and has a fairly strong whip to it, you are therefore advised when using it, to ensure that you are not endangering others in the deep end, and to dive straight out and not to the right or left where there is a danger of hitting the deep end wall on your right or the shelf on your left. The approach to the deep end has a steep shelf five metres from the deep end wall dropping from 6' to 9' 10" and therefore it is not advisable to dive deep when diving in from the deep end.

## **ALLOCATIONS**

All allocations are applicable to both Houses i.e. Ian Fraser House and Pearson House, and Pearson House personnel who wish to avail themselves of the facilities, should, where possible tie in with the routine transport between the two houses. The weekend allocations are for the immediate families of St. Dunstaners and Staff, i.e. parents and their children only.

## **OFF DUTY STAFF**

Heads of departments are to ensure that only off duty staff be permitted to attend.

Your co-operation will greatly assist the Supervisor to keep the facilities clean and attend to your safety.



**IAN FRASER HOUSE**  
**Provisional Swimming Bath Allocations**  
**To Be Given One Month's Trial**

Provisional Swimming Bath Allocations etc.

<b>Mondays</b>	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	St. Dunstaners and Off Duty Staff
	10.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	
	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	
<b>Tuesdays</b>	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	St. Dunstaners, Including Local St. Dunstaners, Wives and or Escort and Off Duty Staff
	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	
	6.45 p.m.	8.00 p.m.	
<b>Wednesdays</b>	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	St. Dunstaners and Off Duty Staff
	10.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	
	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	
<b>Thursdays</b>	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	St. Dunstaners, Including Local St. Dunstaners, Wives and or Escort and Off Duty Staff
	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	
	6.45 p.m.	8.00 p.m.	
<b>Fridays</b>	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	St. Dunstaners and Off Duty Staff
	10.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	
	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	
<b>Saturdays</b>	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	St. Dunstaners, Including Local St. Dunstaners, and St. Dunstaners Families
<b>Sundays</b>	2.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	Off Duty Staff, and Staff Families

## Walking Club

The Walking Section completed a much better season of 8 events, with the 7 miles Championship at Ewell on Saturday, 19th April, with John Simpson retaining his totally blind section title, and Bill Miller the semi-sighted.

### Result

Order of Finish	Actual Time	Allowance	Handicap Time
W. Miller	71.54	Scr	71.54
J. Simpson	72.45	Scr	72.45
M. Tetley	77.22	2.00	75.22
S. Tutton	77.23	4.00	73.23
R. Young	80.10	8.00	72.10
C. Stafford	80.15	7.00	73.15
J. Wright	82.16	9.00	73.16

### Archie Brown (Aggregate Points) Cup

Charlie Stafford has done it at last. Ever since the competition first started, Charlie has longed to hold this much coveted

trophy, so much so, that poor Charlie was rather overcome when the cup was presented to him by Charles Harrison, who also held Archie in such high esteem, that he has personally presented a plaque to the winner every year.

Congratulations Charles, display them both proudly. The final placings in the Archie Brown Cup competition were:

	points
C. Stafford	34
W. Miller	32
S. Tutton	29
R. Young	29
M. Tetley	28
J. Wright	21
D. Purches	20
J. Simpson	18

**W. MILLER**  
*Secretary*





*Mr. Mustchin, left, with Mr. Garnett-Orme after the presentation of a gold watch from St. Dunstan's Council.*

## STAFF RETIREMENT

*Mr. M. H. Mustchin*, Manager of the Despatch Department at Headquarters, retired on 31st May, after 43 years service. "Mo" as he is known to us all, came to St. Dunstan's in 1932, and worked with his father, Mr. Frank Mustchin until the outbreak of war.

During the war years he saw service with the Royal Artillery, Sherwood Foresters and finally the Royal Engineers, serving in the Middle East and in Italy. In 1946 he returned to St. Dunstan's, taking over as Manager of the Despatch Department, when his father retired in 1950.

We wish him good health and a long and happy retirement with his wife.

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*R. D. ("Bertie") McConnell*, of Bangor, has been active politically in Northern Ireland for many years and he has now held his seat for the Alliance Party in the recent Convention Election. North

Down is a very large constituency with 93,000 electors and he and his wife, Olive, had a terribly busy three weeks during the campaign.

All St. Dunstaners will wish to congratulate Bertie and wish him the very best of luck in the difficult months ahead.

## A seat at Winterbourne

*Alec Purves* of Winterbourne, Nr. Bristol, writes to tell us that last Autumn when he was tidying up his garden he thought he would get the entrance to his garden more spick and span.

What was a rough gravel slope to the garage is now a neat concrete ramp and there is a flight of steps to the front gate. Beside the gate is a concrete slab and with the help of a spare piece of elm wood it has now been turned into a seat. Alec hopes the old folk in the district will use it as a rest in the sun when they are out for a walk.



# KEMP TOWN NOTES

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During April, life in Kemp Town was a trifle chaotic. Owing to the impending move to Ian Fraser House, entertainments had to be rearranged, or reluctantly cancelled, for both coach drivers were needed for more mundane tasks. However, we managed to arrange two Drives and several outings to the Dome, and to the Theatre Royal, during the month. We were fortunate to have the opportunity of seeing "A Family and a Fortune", prior to the London opening; the cast included Alec Guinness, Margaret Leighton and Rachel Kempson. The acting was superb—the play itself brilliantly written, but chilling in its exposure of human weakness.

## Record Programmes

Record programmes were presented by V.A.D.s, Mrs. Dantine and Mrs. McMaster, and by an old friend of ours, Mr. Les Harris. In his eagerness to entertain us, he arrived a week early, and we were quite unable to disguise the fact, for when he arrived Mrs. McMaster had already begun her programme. But he cheerfully returned the following Sunday evening and played us a wide-ranging selection from his vast collection of records.

In the middle of the month the Brighton Reunion took place at the Hotel Metropole. It was good to see so many old friends greeting each other. A few days later saw our first visit of the year to Brighton Races, and if our horsey St. Dunstaners have anything to do with it, we shall be reading the runners, riders, form and prices many times and oft, before the summer is over. Where, we ask, do they get that endless supply of shirts they are prepared to lose? Perhaps they just enjoy drinking tea out of cardboard cups?

But April will be remembered as the month of the Big Moves, when Ian Fraser House opened with gladness, and Northgate House closed with some sadness. Pearson House was in the difficult position of losing half of its staff in the move to Ovingdean, and at the

same time making welcome the men and staff from Northgate. No one could have found the transition easy. Naturally, the normal routine of both houses was affected for some time before the actual moves took place, and for weeks we seemed to be working surrounded by crates, boxes, fishing-rods, office files, sheets of plastic . . .

"Tote that mattress, lift that chair!  
Where do you want them?  
Oh! Shove 'em anywhere!"

## Thanks to all Helpers

Paul Robeson, toting his barge and lifting his bale along Old Man River, had it dead easy, compared with us! But we got through it all eventually, thanks to hard work and much goodwill. Led by Commandant, who worked hours no Union would tolerate, together with both Matrons, our splendid maintenance engineer, Bob Field; the drivers, catering staff, orderlies, nursing staff, *et al*, order gradually emerged from chaos. A word of thanks is due to Dickie Richardson, who "kept his cool" under the most trying conditions. I might add that the female staff didn't exactly stand around either! At the end of each day we regarded our bedraggled hair, broken nails, dirty uniforms and laddered tights, with extreme disfavour, but with that warm feeling of a family helping each other along.

## May Day

And so it came to pass that, on May Day, we welcomed our first St. Dunstaners to Ian Fraser House. But more of that next month. Until then, forgive us if we creep quietly away and fall in a heap for half an hour . . .

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## RETIREMENT

Henry Petty, B.E.M., of Leeds retired from his employment with Shell Mex on 31st December, 1974. At a presentation before he left his colleagues gave him a telephone table and seat and from his employers he received a very handsome clock.



# REUNION ROUND UP

## Jubilee Celebrations at Brighton, Liverpool and Manchester

### BRIGHTON

Fog on the North Downs, fog on the South Downs, fog over the sea and intermittent rain or drizzle all day long. Such was the weather for the first of the Diamond Jubilee reunions held in Brighton on Thursday, 17th April. But, fortunately, the weather was in sharp contrast to the atmosphere inside the Metropole Hotel. It was a very good, happy reunion.

Altogether 246 people sat down to lunch. Among them 41 St. Dunstaners from the First and 68 from the Second World War or subsequent operations. Guests included our good friends Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Lillie from the Sussex Grocers' Association, Mrs. Dacre, The Reverend Popham Hosford, and, of

*Sir Edwin and Lady Arrowsmith with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Frearson and Miss H. Stewart at the Brighton Reunion.*



course, Dr. O'Hara. Retired members of the staff present were Mr. Rice, Miss Ramshaw, Mrs. Avison, Miss Jones, Mrs. Macdonald, Miss Meldrum, and Miss Scott.

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, K.C.M.G., was the Member of St. Dunstan's Council presiding and he was accompanied by Lady Arrowsmith. Sir Edwin began his speech after lunch with the following words "May I say first of all how very pleased and honoured my wife and I are to be with you today for the first reunion in our Diamond Jubilee year. For it was sixty years ago on 26th March, 1915, that Sir Arthur Pearson arranged for the first contingent of war-blinded men to enter St. Dunstan's Villa in Regent's Park for rehabilitation and training".

Bringing greetings from the Chairman and Council, Sir Edwin added that Lady Fraser was very sorry that she could not be present at the luncheon, but she sent a very warm message of love to everyone present.

"You have in front of you" said Sir Edwin "a special commemorative Jubilee menu which is going to all reunions this year. It contains messages from Sir Neville Pearson, from Lady Fraser and from your Chairman, Ion Garnett-Orme". He then read out a passage from the Chairman's message published in the April Review. "This message" said Sir Edwin "must echo the thoughts of us all" and he read out a very appropriate quotation, handed to him by Mrs. Griffiee, which had appeared in that day's *Daily Mirror*. It was by Longfellow and ran:

"So, when a great man dies,  
For years beyond our ken,  
The light he leaves behind him lies,  
Upon the paths of men".

Again referring to Mr. Garnett-Orme's message, Sir Edwin said that "wisdom, kindness, approachability, are things that your Chairman has in full measure. And if I could add a very great knowledge of the financial world to guide us through these difficult days of inflation, I think we are



very fortunate to have Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme as our Chairman".

Having spoken words of welcome to all the guests Sir Edwin gave a summary of what the Grocers' Federation and the Sussex Grocers' Association have done for St. Dunstan's over the past sixty years.

He then ran through the list of staff members present and coming on to St. Dunstaners gave a particular welcome to George Farrant, Eastbourne, and Douglas Forshaw, Bognor Regis, attending their first reunion.

"My wife and I are getting used to the Brighton Road" said Sir Edwin, "for we came down last Friday for the re-opening of Ian Fraser House, we all of us had hoped that by that day, 11th April, it would again be in full occupation, but that could not be and rather than postpone it, because if we did goodness knows when it might have been finished, we decided to stick to the time and although it was not by any means fully completed it was sufficiently so for the opening to be carried out by Lady Fraser and may I say that was only achieved by the almost superhuman efforts of the Commandant".

After talking about the modernised Ian Fraser House (described in last month's *Review*) Sir Edwin went on to say "It is always at these reunions a great delight to see you all and your splendid wives and helpers. I am sure St. Dunstaners will follow the precept which I in almost 40 years of married life have found invaluable and that is one must take the big decisions oneself and leave the small decisions to one's wife. She decides such simple things as what we do generally, where we go for our holidays, what we eat". A St. Dunstaner, intervening, "what we drink". Sir Edwin "No, I do that. What happens to the house and easy things like that, but of course it is I that make the big decisions such as when Dr. Kissinger should visit the Middle East. Should Brian Clough be invited back to Brighton? Was it just the going or ten pounds extra which beat Red Rum? I think that is a very happy solution".

"Just before I sit down," concluded Sir Edwin, "may I repeat what a pleasure it has been for my wife and I to be here with you and to say how much we admire all St. Dunstan's does in the blind world".

Len Howell, Haywards Heath, giving



*Len Howell proposes the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners at Brighton.*

the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners said "I have a very simple task. Just now when Miss Stewart asked me, I thought what is the best way of giving thanks? I know you would like to do it in the traditional way and I would ask you to do it collectively . . . What can we do better, we St. Dunstaners, than to see to it that our life in the community outside, the way we conduct ourselves . . . The best way in which we can thank those on the Council and staff who do their best for us is to see that we are a credit to them in the world outside".

The reunion arrangements were made by Miss Stewart assisted by Miss Blebta. After lunch there was dancing to the Ken Lyon Trio and the customary raffle. During the afternoon the company was entertained by the popular and talented "Joan and the three blind mice", Joan Osborne, Bob Osborne, Ron Smith and Winston Holmes.





*Mrs. Barbara Taylor serves the Midland Hotel's Jubilee tribute to Wallie Bramley and Ken Cole.*

## LIVERPOOL

There was a reminder of the history of our organisation in the presence of Mr. Nigel Pearson, grandson of our Founder, greeting St. Dunstaners as they arrived for the Liverpool Reunion at the Adelphi Hotel on Thursday, 24th April.

There were 89 people at this, the second of the 1975 Reunions, 38 St. Dunstaners—11 from the First War and 27 from the Second. With them were their wives or escorts, staff members from the Welfare Department, with representatives of the Country Life, Estates, Industrial and Public Relations Departments.

St. Dunstaners were pleased to meet Mrs. J. Harris, an old friend and helper but missed the presence of Dr. and Mrs. D. L. Charters, who were unable to attend due to the Doctor's illness. Also present were Miss Hilary Stam, producer of Radio Merseyside's programme for the blind—and Mr. Wilson a blind person, formerly a Blind Persons' Resettlement Officer, with Mrs. Wilson who has broadcast on St. Dunstan's.

*A bouquet for Mrs. Garnett-Orme presented by our St. Dunstaner, Sadie Stokes.*





Opening his speech after luncheon, Mr. Pearson welcomed everyone to this 60th Anniversary Reunion, "Sorry we have no diamonds for you—or at least the girls—but we do have something even more valuable, and that is good fellowship at this Reunion".

Mr. Pearson conveyed greetings from his father, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., our President, from Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme and from his fellow members of the Council.

Continuing, he referred to the St. Dunstaners attending and to their occupations—he gave a particular welcome to five St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion—Islwyn Hughes, Bryngwran; John McCounid, Bootle; Edward Mercer, Blackpool; William Tickle, Liverpool. Introducing Charles Hague of Liverpool, Mr. Pearson also included Charles's wife, May, informing the company that they were that day celebrating their 32nd Wedding Anniversary. Other names mentioned by Mr. Pearson were those of the staff, particularly Mrs. K. Ballantyne the Welfare Visitor responsible and Miss K. Broughton who assisted in the Reunion arrangements.

"It has been a momentous year," continued Mr. Pearson, "We had the fine tribute, so richly deserved, to Lord Fraser at the memorial service held in Westminster Abbey. The offer of the Abbey for the occasion was a fitting gesture from the whole nation. Great men create and lead, Lord Fraser did both. Exceptionally they mould an organisation which can successfully outlive them. It is up to all of us to prove that Lord Fraser did that too. That is our debt to him."

Mr. Pearson said that fortunately we would still have the help of Lady Fraser, who started with his grandfather as personal assistant, "She was an important part of the inspiration behind the foundation of St. Dunstan's." In paying tribute to Lady Fraser, now a Vice-President and member of St. Dunstan's Council, Mr. Pearson gracefully linked the wives and escorts of St. Dunstaners present at the Reunion.

After referring to the re-opening of Ian Fraser House and Mr. Garnett-Orme's first speech as Chairman, Mr. Pearson said, "He will ensure that we all can and

do carry on with the mission that my grandfather started and which Lord Fraser continued in such an exemplary way for over 50 years."

"In this 60th anniversary year how can one pull together all the pieces?" concluded Mr. Pearson, "The moving memorial service, the changes among the office holders, the opening of Ian Fraser House? Each of them major steps in the story of St. Dunstan's, each fitting in some way those essentially British characteristics which are personified by all St. Dunstaners, courage, doggedness and adaptability. The three essential characteristics of a St. Dunstaner pinpointed by Lord Fraser on the last page of his book, 'My Story of St. Dunstan's'. The three characteristics which will help us to live up to our motto and continue to win, 'Victory over Blindness'."

"It is a difficult job to try to follow the speech we've just had," said Stanley

*Mr. Nigel Pearson takes the floor with our St. Dunstaner Vi Delaney at Liverpool.*





Moseley of Blackpool, when he rose to express the thanks of St. Dunstaners, "However, I am very honoured to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Pearson and the Council for this wonderful day. We've had a wonderful luncheon and the opportunity of meeting so many members of St. Dunstan's staff, meeting old friends and forming new friendships."

Mr. Moseley went on, "St. Dunstan's to me, and I am only a comparatively new member, has meant starting a new life. When I look round and talk to different people who are old St. Dunstaners, I'm amazed at the way in which they've carried on, faced up to the future and they really are enjoying themselves. I think that in itself is a tribute to St. Dunstan's organisation."

Mr. Moseley said that the St. Dunstaners at the Reunion would remember Lord Fraser and send their love to Lady Fraser. He thanked the hotel staff and also the staff of St. Dunstan's, "For the care and attention they have given us, everything they do for us and are going to do in the future."

Mr. Wills, our Secretary, said a few words of greeting before the afternoon continued with tea and conversation and, of course, dancing.

## MANCHESTER

There had been an historic link at Liverpool and there was another at Manchester, where the third Reunion this year was the first attended by Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. With him was Mrs. Garnett-Orme, and together they presided over a gathering of 117 people. Thirteen St. Dunstaners from the First War attended and 42 from the second, making a total of 55 all accompanied by their wives or escorts, at the Midland Hotel on Saturday, 26th April.

A feature of the luncheon was a special sweet, served in honour of St. Dunstan's Diamond Jubilee, which included a representative of the flaming torch badge.

After lunch Mr. Garnett-Orme rose to greet the St. Dunstaners and their guests. He said, "I give you all a warm welcome here this afternoon, especially those of us who are here for their first visit to a St. Dunstan's reunion. They are Mr. Thomas Page, of Rochdale, Mr. Isaac Pellington, of Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. Maurice Searchfield, of Blackpool and Mr. Harold Smith, of Altrincham. I hope they will feel at home, enjoy the afternoon and come to

*Celebrating their first Reunion at Liverpool and their 32nd wedding anniversary that same day—Charles and May Hague.*





many more St. Dunstan's reunions. We are also very pleased to have with us Mrs. Eaton as our guest this afternoon. She, as you know, is a very long standing helper of St. Dunstan's and we are delighted that she is able to be here. From Headquarters Mr. Wills is with us and also representatives from various departments of our organisation." Mr. Garnett-Orme then announced the names of staff members so that St. Dunstaners might, if they wished, discuss any problems after lunch.

### 60th Anniversary

"This year is our 60th anniversary," he went on, "and on your tables there are special menu covers which you may wish to take away with you afterwards. Lady Fraser telephoned me last night to ask me to give you a very special message from her bringing all her love to you all and her good wishes. My wife and I last visited Manchester in 1970 and we are very glad to be back here with you again this afternoon, especially as this is my first reunion as your Chairman.

"Our numbers hereto-day are about 120 and you may like to know that there are now 1204 St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom, rather more than two thirds of them from the Second World War, or later, and a further 585 overseas. Although it is now nearly 30 years since the end of the Second World War, the lighted torch of St. Dunstan's shines as bright as ever, a symbol of inspiration and endurance. This is due to the example set by you in tackling your problems and I congratulate you all and also your wives who do so much to make these high standards possible. It is important to new St. Dunstaners, such as those who have joined us recently from Northern Ireland, that our name should continue to be well known and of high repute, and on behalf of these I thank you for seeing that it is so.

### Enjoy the Afternoon

"I hope you all enjoy this afternoon and meet many friends, old and new, and on behalf of us all I thank the hotel for this excellent lunch which they have just given us and Mrs. Ballantyne and Miss Broughton for the hard work they have put into organising this reunion."



*Our Chairman finds James Coupland's speech amusing.*

Mr. Garnett-Orme's speech was recorded for Radio Manchester by Mr. Howard Langley of the Torchlight programme and during the afternoon he interviewed St. Dunstaners to make a complete programme on the Reunion.

Speaking for St. Dunstaners, James Coupland made a jovial, if unorthodox speech which, by its good humour, brought a warm response from his audience. He said, "Ladies and Gentlemen and St. Dunstaners all. I am sure that everyone of us have enjoyed . . . oh dear . . . excuse me . . . it's the first time I have ever done this, excuse me. I am sure that everyone of you that will meet our Chairman after we sit down for a talk and a social gathering will enjoy his company. Don't be afraid of him because he's a very understanding and a very natural chap. He's hail fellow well met and I'll tell you he's a very jolly, good-hearted, well met, friendly, lovable bloke and I hope he will have every success in St. Dunstan's and I am sure he will make a very good Chairman."

Having called a spade a spade as he put it in true Lancashire fashion James sat down amid laughter and cheers after one of the shortest votes of thanks recorded in the *Review*.

The Reunion continued in the afternoon with music for dancing until tea and the prize draw.



# BRIDGE NOTES

## Brighton

The Brighton section of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club held a bridge drive at the Saltdean Community Centre on Saturday, 19th April. We had been unable to hire the larger ballroom for this occasion but as we were slightly fewer, the smaller "Activities" room proved to be a more intimate atmosphere.

Mr. R. Goodlad kindly acted as director and also partnered one of our members. Prizes won were as follows:

- 1st **R. Fullard and Mrs. McPherson**
- 2nd W. Claydon and Mrs. Claydon
- 3rd R. Giffard and Mrs. Giffard
- 4th A. Dodgson and Mrs. Dodgson

We will now look forward to holding our next bridge drive in Ian Fraser House.  
R.A.F.

The fifth Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 10th May. The results were as follows:

R. Bickley and W. Scott	74
M. Clements and F. Griffie	73
R. Goding and S. Webster	72
E. Bedford and W. Lethbridge	59
C. Walters and Partner	57
J. Whitcombe and W. Claydon	55
W. Burnett and J. Simmons	46

## London

The fourth Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 3rd May. The results were as follows:

W. Allen and W. Miller	72
J. Lynch and H. Meleson	68
A. Caldwell and	
Miss Vera Kemmish	62
J. Huk and F. Dickerson	58
J. Majchrowicz and J. Padley	52

Correction

## BRIDGE CONGRESS RESULTS

### Gover Memorial Cups. Individuals

This should have read:

London. W. Allen.

(Not W. Freer as published.)

## St. Dunstan's Fishing Club



The opening event of the 1975/76 angling season was a week-end's sea fishing off Newhaven, organised by Mr. Jock Carnochan, our Sports Officer, with his usual efficiency, when a record number of St. Dunstaners, some 30 in all, took part.

On Saturday, 26th April, with a calm sea and lovely sunshine our party set out in the six fishing boats hired for the purpose. Quite a good variety of fish were caught, including many dabs, Channel whiting, pelt whiting, tope, spur dogs, robin huss and plaice.

The Club had offered a cash prize to the St. Dunstaner who caught the heaviest fish of the week-end; this went to Jim Morris of Peacehaven, for his 10 lbs. spur dog landed with the vocal assistance of Bernard Blacker, on the Saturday.

On Sunday, 27th April, unfortunately, patchy fog made it inadvisable to go too far out of harbour although the sun shone as before. One source of amusement to our party was the bantering of the skippers over the short wave radio frequencies about their respective catches, both real and pretended, but could it have been because the "Penhall" skipper maintained a radio silence that the club prize went to an angler on his boat?

With Ian Fraser House re-opened, it is hoped that our party will be even more numerous for the next trip scheduled for 28th and 29th June.

**BOB FULLARD**

## BRIDGE NOTES *continued*

Would any Club member who is interested in having "The Bridge Contested Auction" by Alf Field on tape please contact me at Headquarters and we shall then endeavour to have the requisite number of tapes produced. It will be necessary to send 40p to cover the cost of each cassette.

**H. MELESON**  
*Secretary*



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 662*

## **London**

by Ivor Brown

*Read by Arthur Bush*

*Reading Time 9¼ hours*

An affectionate and scholarly look at the capital, by a distinguished man of letters. He takes us along its famous thoroughfares, we stroll with him through its parks, visit its historic theatres and the haunts of famous men. We are even treated to a learned dissertation on its complicated water supply!

The book is in no sense a guide book. Rather is it a catalogue of London's churches and houses and green places, with anecdotes and snippets of history thrown in for good measure.

The book is crammed full of information about London, but Mr. Brown's urbane, slightly pedantic style could for some readers, I suspect, prove just the slightest bit tedious.

*Cat. No. 527*

## **The Jacaranda Tree**

by H. E. Bates

*Read by Anthony Parker*

*Reading Time 10½ hours*

The members of a small British community in Burma decide to make for India when the Japanese invade the country. It will take many days, a dangerous and difficult journey. The eleven people set off in two cars.

The roads are choked with refugees and progress is painfully slow. A day is lost when Patterson's car breaks down. The six occupants of the second car decide, against Patterson's advice, to push on, with tragic results.

Eventually, after many hard and anxious days, the survivors reach India, their numbers sadly depleted by death.

This is a gripping tale of a long and hazardous journey, told with the author's characteristic brilliant narrative style. The vivid scenes of Burmese life certainly took me back—I could see the bouganvillias and hibiscus and smell the frangipani.

*Cat. No. 1115*

## **Small Man of Namataki**

by Liam Nolan

*Read by David Broomfield*

*Reading Time 5½ hours*

This is the story of "Uncle John", one-time interpreter in a P.O.W. camp, who risked torture and death to give succour to the inmates.

His real name was Kioshe Watanabe and he was born in 1890 into a Buddhist family, living in an all-Buddhist village.

One day his elder brother gave him a Bible as an interesting curio. This casual gift was to change the whole life-style of the young Kioshe. At twenty-two he was ordained as a Lutheran Pastor. He was also learning English.

Too old for active service in the war, he was taken into the army as civilian interpreter and sent to Hong Kong. He was horrified by the conditions in the P.O.W. camp, the brutality, the appalling living conditions and the too-high death rate.

He began to smuggle in much-needed medical supplies. He was well aware of the penalty of discovery, long periods of torture and finally death. His extraordinary heroism was all the more remarkable for the fact that he had, from childhood, gone in mortal dread of physical pain.

Inevitably he was discovered, but before he could be dealt with, Japan surrendered. The A-bomb had saved Kioshe Watanabe's life . . .

But at what dreadful cost. His wife and daughter were among the Hiroshima dead.

This is a wonderful story of the quiet, undramatic courage of one small man who cheerfully risked the consequences of his "crimes", because, in his simple, direct way he took what he knew in his heart to be the only action possible.

This book is certainly in the "not to be missed" category.



# CLUB NEWS

## LONDON

The Football Pontoon ending on 26th April was won by P. Sheehan with the team Sheffield United. The "booby" was shared between E. Carpenter with Newcastle, Miss V. Kemmish with Carlisle and J. Majchrowicz with Chelsea.

The Sir Arthur Pearson Aggregate Domino Competition is now well under way and creating great interest among our members.

The winners of our recent Domino Games were as follows:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| April 3rd  | 1. <b>C. Hancock</b><br>2. W. Miller                    |
| April 10th | 1. <b>R. Armstrong</b><br>W. Miller                     |
| April 17th | 1. <b>G. Stanley</b><br>2. P. Sheehan<br>J. Majchrowicz |
| April 24th | 1. <b>J. Padley</b><br>2. C. Hancock<br>W. MILLER       |

## MIDLAND

A very good meeting was held on Sunday, 13th April, the main feature being another of our very popular 'Bring and Buy sales'.

The very grand total of £15.00 was raised from it and this money will help greatly towards the ever increasing costs of coaches for our outings.

We were able to make the second round draw for the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out competition and also made a start with the doubles competition.

The tea for this meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Elisabeth Tomporowski and we all thanked her for the lovely spread.

We were all very sorry to hear of the death of our very old club mate, Bill Hines. Although he had not been able to come along to meetings for many months owing to poor health, Billy had always been a stalwart member of the Birmingham club

and attended many Midland club meetings when we moved our premises. He must have been a founder member.

A floral tribute was sent on behalf of the Midland club and we send our deepest sympathy to his family.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary*

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## FAMILY NEWS

### Silver Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bagwell* of Salisbury, Wilts., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 6th May, 1975.

### Ruby Wedding

Sincere congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Willie Barker* of Bradford, Yorks., who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 20th April. They held a party to mark this occasion and it was attended by about thirty members of their family and friends.

### Grandfathers

#### Congratulations to:

*Jimmy Ellis* of Pinelands, Cape Town, South Africa, on the safe arrival of a grandson, Ross James, born to his daughter Linda Mary and son-in-law Bruce, on 3rd May, 1975.

*W. B. Hargreaves*, of Whitchurch, Shropshire, who is delighted to announce the birth of his second grand-daughter, Heather, born to his daughter, Diana Burnett, and her husband in Oakville, Canada, on the 10th March, 1975.



*Alfred Earwaker* of Southampton, who is happy to announce the arrival of a grandson, Peter John, born to their eldest son and daughter-in-law on 9th February, 1975. He is a brother for Samantha and is the first grandchild to be able to carry on the family name.

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### 1st PRIZE

*Geoffrey Andrew* of New Southgate, London, N11 has been successful again in a recent National Competition in which competitors were both sighted and non-sighted. He was awarded 1st Prize for

Basketry as well as a 'Highly Commended' Certificate in respect of his stool-work. Geoffrey works for Home Industries as a basket maker.

### Deaths

**We offer our very sincere sympathy to:**

*Thomas Aspinall* of St. Helen's, Lancs., on the death of his mother who passed away on 9th February, 1975.

*Richard C. A. Jones* of Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, who mourns the death of his mother who passed away on 11th April, 1975.

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## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

### **Edward Astbury. South Lancashire Regiment**

Edward Astbury of Saltdean, East Sussex, died 25th April, 1975, whilst staying at Pearson House, Brighton. He was 81 years old.

He enlisted in the South Lancashire Regiment in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1938. In those days he lived in Lancashire and as a hobby he kept a few poultry.

He quickly learnt handicrafts whilst training at St. Dunstan's and became a craftsman in cane chair and basket work and accepted local orders for a variety of work, including the re-seating of antique chairs.

During the 2nd World War Edward worked as an inspector in an aircraft factory.

When St. Dunstan's moved to Church Stretton, Edward was asked to undertake the job of Basket Instructor and was later transferred to Ovingdean where he continued to work as an Instructor until his retirement in 1959. Over the years, his wife's health had given cause for serious concern and Mrs. Astbury died in March 1970.

Following the death of his wife Edward stayed with his married daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bates, in Manchester, returning to

his home in Saltdean where he managed with temporary domestic help until a few years back when he stayed for longer periods at Pearson House.

Numerous St. Dunstaners who remember 'Ted' Astbury as their Instructor will mourn his passing.

He leaves his married daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bates, who have at all times visited him and invited him to spend holidays in their home.

### **Joseph Boyce. 7th Rifle Regiment**

Joseph Boyce of Malone Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland, died on 14th April, 1975 whilst attending a meeting in Larne, Co. Antrim. He was 77 years of age.

He enlisted in the 7th Rifle Regiment in April 1916 and served with them until his discharge in September 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's in that year.

Joseph trained in massage and on completing his training worked for a short time in hospital work and then he established himself very successfully in private practice. In later years he combined this for a while with work at the Belfast Hospital for Children.

At one time he served as physiotherapist to the Irish Rugby Union football team and he was always particularly interested in the rugby players at Queen's University, Belfast. Recently he carried out sessional work with John Mackie's, Engineers, in Belfast in addition to his very busy private practice.

His wife passed away in June 1974 and he leaves his married daughter, Mrs. Maureen O'Neill.



**Alfred Henry Carpenter. *Suffolk Regiment***

Alfred Henry Carpenter of Ipswich, Suffolk, died at his home on 12th April, 1975. He was 58 years of age.

He enlisted in the Suffolk Regiment in 1940 and served with them until his discharge in 1946. He was a prisoner of war when his vision failed to some extent and in 1948 he trained as a telephonist at St. Dunstan's. He settled very successfully in this occupation in 1950 and when some nine years later his sight failed still further he became a full member of St. Dunstan's.

When his retirement became necessary for health reasons in 1971, Mr. Carpenter had completed 21 years with his firm.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Gladys Carpenter and his two daughters, Madeline and Ursula.

**Thomas Cheshire. *Royal Engineers***

Thomas Cheshire of Studham, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, died at Pearson House, Brighton, on 1st May, 1975. He was 83 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers in November 1915 and served with them until his discharge in March 1919 when he came to St. Dunstan's.

He trained as a boot repairer and made this his occupation together with some poultry keeping. About two years later, however, Thomas began to concentrate more on his poultry and garden, combining this with mat making and he worked at these occupations for as long as he was able. Even in later years when his health was not too good, Thomas still took a very keen interest in his garden and always very much enjoyed his visits to Brighton for holidays. When he became ill during April he came to Northgate House for nursing but unfortunately his health continued to deteriorate.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Nellie Cheshire, their son Leslie, and their three daughters, Joan, Dora and Betty.

**John James Joyce. *Cheshire Regiment***

John James Joyce of Datchet, Slough, Bucks., died at Pearson House, Brighton, on 9th May, 1975, three weeks before his 90th birthday.

He enlisted in the Cheshire Regiment in November 1916 and served with them until his discharge in October 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1949. He was a widower when he joined us and lived with one of his married daughters, Mrs. E. Tatum.

Due to increasing poor health he became a permanent resident at Pearson House in 1966 and sadly in 1972 he had a partial amputation of his left leg, but showed great fortitude and courage. To the end he remained popular with Matron, staff and fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves five grown up children, Mrs. V. Martin, Mrs. E. Tatum, Mrs. M. Bousfield, Mrs. K. Moule and Mr. Jack Joyce, the last two both of whom reside in Australia.

**Charles Percy Heselton. *Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery***

C. P. Heselton, of Scarborough, Yorkshire, died on the 17th February, 1975. He was 88 years of age.

He was commissioned and served throughout the First War and then was a businessman for many years until his retirement. He and his wife also had many charitable interests in Scarborough. His sight ultimately failed as a result of mustard gas and he came to St. Dunstan's in August, 1973.

He leaves a widow and married son and grandchildren.

**Alfred Oliver McCarthy, M.C. *Royal Artillery***

Lieut-Colonel A. O. McCarthy, of Godalming, Surrey, died at his home on the 8th May, 1975. He was 81 years of age.

He was a Regular Soldier, who enlisted in 1915 and served for over 30 years. He was severely wounded in North Africa during the Second War. His sight ultimately failed and he came to St. Dunstan's in April, 1975; by then he was very seriously ill, but was nursed devotedly by his wife and family.

He leaves a widow and son and daughter, both married.

**Hugh Graham Neish. *Royal Tank Regiment***

Major H. G. Neish, of London, died at Pearson House on the 15th April, 1975. He was 77 years of age.

He served in the Regular Army from 1915 until he retired in 1948. His sight ultimately failed and he was very seriously ill by the time he came to St. Dunstan's and went to Pearson House a few months ago.

He was a single man with no immediate family.

**Alfred Smith.**

First World War. *East Yorkshire Regiment, West Yorkshire Regiment and Northumberland Fusiliers*

Second World War. *Royal Air Force*

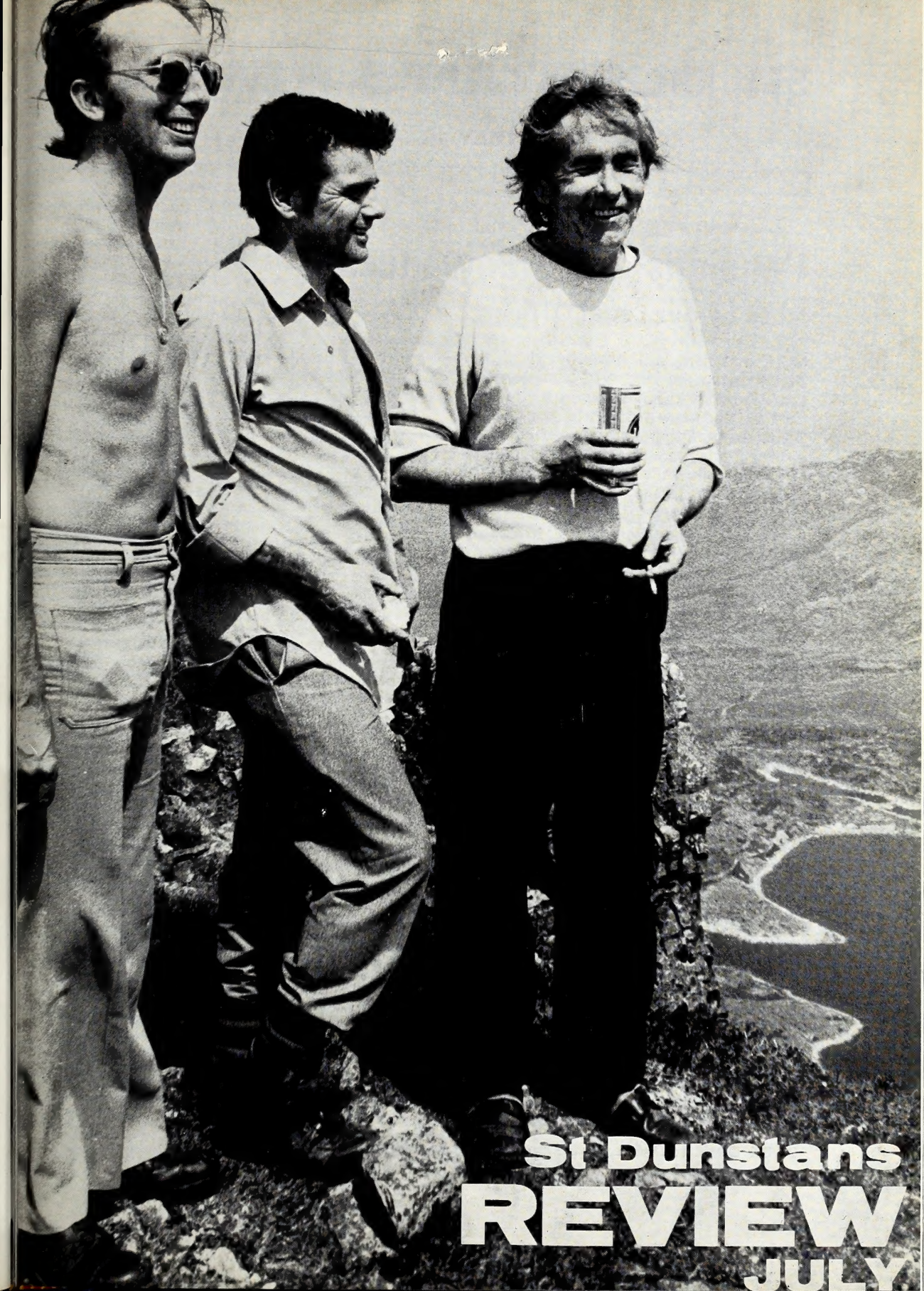
Alfred Smith of Clayton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs., died in hospital on 20th April, 1975. He was 75 years of age.

He enlisted in East Yorkshire Regiment in 1917 and served until his discharge in 1920. He served in both World Wars and was in the Royal Air Force from 1940-1946. He received mustard gas poisoning in the First World War but it was not until much later in life that his sight failed completely and he was, in fact, able to work until 1961, when he retired.

He joined St. Dunstan's in February 1975 and only a few months before this he and his wife moved from Morecambe to Newcastle to be near their married son, in view of Alfred's failing health. Unfortunately his health did not improve.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Clara Smith and their son.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**JULY**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 665

JULY 1975

5p MONTHLY

## Pensions and Allowances

### Note by our Legal Officer

St. Dunstaners will have heard of the Statement in the House of Commons on the 22nd May, 1975, by Mrs. Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, that there are to be increases in War Pensions and other Pensions and in some Allowances, of the order of 14½ per cent.

The Basic 100 per cent Disability Pension will go up from £19.00 to £21.80 a week, and there are to be corresponding increases in those Allowances which are to be raised.

The Basic War Widow's Pension is to be increased from £15.00 to £17.20; Age Allowances for War Widows will go up 20p on the lower rate and 40p on the higher rate.

Although the up-rating was promised for December, the payment date has been brought forward to the week commencing the 17th November, 1975.

In accordance with usual practice, a supplement will accompany the October issue of the *Review* containing more detailed information, and pending that issue, should St. Dunstaners have any enquiries would they, please, address them to Mr. L. A. Slade, our Pensions Officer at Headquarters.

Meanwhile, two examples of the proposed revised payments are set out in next column.

### EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

<i>Employable</i>	<i>Totally Blind</i>	
	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
Basic Pension	£19.00	£21.80
Attendance Allowance	7.60	8.70
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	£30.68	£35.08

<i>Unemployable</i>	<i>Totally Blind</i>	
	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
Basic Pension	£19.00	£21.80
Attendance Allowance	7.60	8.70
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Unemployability Supplement	12.40	14.20
Wife's Allowance	7.40	8.40
Allowance for First Child	6.03	6.88
Invalidity Allowance	1.50	1.70
	£57.13	£65.38

### "HOWARD ON HOLIDAY"

Our good friend, Mr. Howard Langley, who both produces and introduces "Torch Light" the weekly 30 minute programme for the blind, recently visited Ian Fraser House. Radio Manchester will be broadcasting the programme which he has made from the visit, under the title "Howard on Holiday". Sunday, 20th July, 4.30 to 5 p.m., repeat Monday, 21st July, 3.30 to 4 p.m.

**COVER PICTURE:** Ray Peart, Alan Wortley and John Simpson at the last rest point before ascending to the summit of Cader Idris.

**BACK COVER:** Dwarfed by the mountain a group begins the long descent from the summit.



# REUNIONS

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## NEWCASTLE

Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, accompanied by his wife, presided at the Newcastle Reunion held at the Royal Station Hotel on Thursday, 15th May. Altogether 60 people were present, including 7 St. Dunstaners from the First and 20 from the Second World War or later.

The Reunion arrangements were made by Mrs. Plaxton, assisted by Miss Skinner who is now welfare visitor for Scotland and Mrs. Ward, who succeeded Mrs. Plaxton on her retirement at the end of May. We also had the pleasure of Mrs. King's company, paying a welcome visit among her old friends as our guest.

### Our Chairman

"I give you a warm welcome here this afternoon", said Mr. Garnett-Orme in his speech after lunch. "Especially Mr. Marley of Washington. He is with us for his first St. Dunstan's Reunion and I hope that he will feel at home, enjoy the afternoon and come to many more of our Reunions".

Our Chairman went on to welcome Mrs. King, a retired member of the Welfare Staff, well known to all St. Dunstaners and he also welcomed active members of St. Dunstan's staff present, headed by our Secretary, Mr. C. D. Wills, about whom Mr. Garnett-Orme said, "He is in charge of our whole organisation and we are very grateful to him for the way he looks after us all and all our affairs." He then thanked Mrs. Plaxton for all she had done by looking after the welfare of St. Dunstaners in the North East and wished her a very happy retirement. He offered congratulations to Mrs. Ward who was taking over from Mrs. Plaxton.

Mr. Garnett-Orme then referred to our Diamond Jubilee Year and the special menu cards. He said that Lady Fraser sent her love and best wishes to all present as, sadly, she could not attend the Reunion. It was, said Mr. Garnett-Orme, the first time that he and his wife had attended the Newcastle Reunion and it was a great pleasure to have the opportunity to meet everybody there.

After referring to the modernisation of Ian Fraser House and expressing the

hope that St. Dunstaners would visit the Home, where he thought they would be surprised and delighted, Mr. Garnett-Orme added, "Our lease of No. 1 South Audley Street has expired and Miss Tatham and Miss Barnard have moved to a section of their own at Headquarters in Old Marylebone Road. This enables us to have the records of all St. Dunstaners, including officers, under one roof and, of course, it will also save expense. The Chairman has always had a room of his own at Headquarters and space has been found for a large room which is used for Council Meetings and any other large gatherings which we may have."

### Torch Shines Brightly

Giving the number of St. Dunstaners alive today as 1,213 in the United Kingdom and a further 594 overseas Mr. Garnett-Orme went on to say, "Although it is now thirty years since the end of World War II, the lighted torch of St. Dunstan's shines as brightly as ever as a symbol of inspiration and endeavour. That this is so is due to the example set by you in overcoming your problems and I can congratulate you all and also your wives who do so much to make these high standards possible. It is important to us all and especially the new St. Dunstaners like those who are joining us now from Northern Ireland that our name should continue to be well-known and held in high repute and on behalf of our newcomers I thank you."

### Expo in Australia

Mr. Garnett-Orme then mentioned Colonel Sir Michael Ansell's visit to South Australia where he opened an Expo in Adelaide, involving everything to do with the horse world. (See article "Sir Mike in South Australia").

He concluded by thanking the hotel staff, with a special mention of Margaret, one of the staff who had been at every St. Dunstan's Reunion at the Royal Station Hotel, and also Mrs. Plaxton and her helpers for all their hard work in organising the afternoon.



## David Bell

The vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners was moved by David Bell, Edinburgh, who welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme to Newcastle and wished him every success on his appointment as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. David added, "We would like you to take back our sincere and warmest regards to Lady Fraser and we regret the loss of our finest St. Dunstaner, Lord Fraser."

"I would also like to thank Mr. Wills, Miss Mosley and all members of the staff who do such hard work to make this Reunion a most memorable one and also this is an opportunity to enable us to meet some old friends, make some new friends and meet some very old friends. We would like to welcome Miss Skinner attending her first Reunion as Welfare Officer for Scotland and also Mrs. Ward, who is taking over from Mrs. Plaxton, and of course we are pleased to see Mrs. King."

"We would like to thank the management of the Hotel, both upstairs and downstairs for a wonderful repast. This brings me to a story, I don't know whether it is apocryphal! Mike Tetley last year was on a tandem ride in Kenya and they were passing through the lines of Kikuyu with their Russian type machine guns and Chinese grenades. They arrived in the centre of a village where the head man and the witch doctor were. The witch doctor raised his eyes to Heaven and cried, 'Thank you very much for sending us our "Meals on Wheels" '."

## SHEFFIELD

Two days later the Sheffield Reunion was held at the Royal Victoria Hotel on Saturday, 17th May. On this occasion there was a total of 133 people, including 11 St. Dunstaners from the First and 42 from the Second World War or later. The honoured guest was Miss Midgley, formerly Welfare Superintendent (North).

"My friends," said Dr. D. G. Hopewell, M.A., LL.B. (Cantab), Hon. LL.D. (Leeds), who presided at the lunch, "I want to bring you the good wishes of the Members of your Council who hope you will enjoy your Reunion today and that in meeting each other and renewing old acquaintances you will have a very

happy time. Also I have a special message for you all from Lady Fraser, who told me to tell you that she hopes when the arthritis which is crippling her at present is improved and she becomes more mobile, she will be able once again to come to Reunions."

## Diamond Jubilee

Referring to the Diamond Jubilee Year, Dr. Hopewell said he thought that St. Dunstan's was as young as it ever was. Because of the spirit which was in it he thought it would remain young for as long as it lived. "And though in this last year we have lost our leader," added Dr. Hopewell, "who was our inspiration and our guide and our encouragement through all those sixty years, we still have undimmed his great reputation which will inspire us in the future as in the past."

Welcoming two new men, Seth Bennett, Bradford, and Peter Jones, Sheffield, Dr. Hopewell mentioned the special menu cards which he hoped St. Dunstaners would take away as a remembrance of the day's meeting and he then gave the number of St. Dunstaners alive today, adding that the same spirit prevailed at home and overseas, the spirit of hope, the spirit of courage and the spirit of cheerfulness.

Welcoming members of the staff present and making particular mention of Mr. Wills and Miss Mosley and expressing thanks to Miss Broughton and Miss Newbold for the arrangements, Dr. Hopewell said that we were delighted to see Miss Midgley back again as a guest at the Reunion. He then concluded:

## Old Friends

"It is a great pleasure for me to come amongst you today and to meet so many old friends and acquaintances and to see you happy and so well and so cheerful. As I say, we are the members of one family and that family spirit is perhaps the most wonderful thing of our organisation and I know that family spirit is largely due to the wives of St. Dunstaners. We give a special thanks for all they do to help St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners."

Robert Coupland, Hull, gave the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. He thanked Dr. Hopewell for his encouraging message and endorsed all that he had





*Dr. Donald Hopewell, with Miss K. Broughton and St. Dunstaners, Patrick Timiney and John Barlow at the Sheffield Reunion.*

said about Lord Fraser. "I would also like to express our appreciation to St. Dunstan's Council for what they do for us and for what St. Dunstan's staff has done for you and me for the past sixty years", said Mr. Coupland.

It was pleasing to know that Ian Fraser House was now open again and this in itself would always commemorate Lord Fraser. He concluded by thanking the hotel management and staff congratulating them on the food, the wine and the music, which he thought very fitting.

## BRISTOL

The Bristol Reunion returned this year to the Esso Motor Hotel and it was a happy return. Situated in sylvan surroundings on the outskirts of Bristol—not far from the M4 Motorway, this hotel is a most convenient meeting point for travellers but most of all, despite its modern design and appearance, its staff keep an old-

fashioned warm welcome for St. Dunstaners.

Saturday, 31st May, then, saw a happy group gathered under the Chairmanship of an ever popular Member of St. Dunstan's Council, Dr. D. G. Hopewell.

Altogether there were 120 people at the sociable round tables: 63 St. Dunstaners, 15 from the 1st World War and 48 from the 2nd World War or later, with their wives or escorts, guests and members of the staff.

Opening his speech, Dr. Hopewell brought a message from Lady Fraser and read a telegram from Miss P. Rogers, Southern Area Welfare Superintendent who was prevented from attending. He said 1975 was a special year because it was 60 years ago that Sir Arthur Pearson, inspired by Lady Fraser, took the house in Bayswater Road and for sixty years St. Dunstan's had gone all over the world until to-day, thanks largely to the St. Dunstaners themselves, and their splendid wives and families, there was no name more honoured and more revered in every corner of the world.





*With the oldest and youngest St. Dunstaners at the Bristol Reunion, Bill Lear (right) and Colwyn Lloyd (left), Dr. Hopewell cuts the Diamond Jubilee cake.*

Dr. Hopewell greeted the special guests, "Our old friends, Mrs. Spurway, Miss Oliphant and Miss Joyce Meyer." After mentioning the names of Headquarters and technical staff present—particularly Miss M. Meyer, Welfare Visitor responsible and Miss I. Newbold, assisting, Dr. Hopewell described the new facilities at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean. "In fact, someone has said to me," he went on, "it's now looking so delightful that when the men go, they will never want to leave it."

Dr. Hopewell concluded with a tribute to the late Lord Fraser: "Although it is a remarkable year for us, as it is our Diamond Jubilee and as it sees the re-opening of Ian Fraser House, it must always be for us a year of sadness because during the last few months we have lost our great leader. It would ill become me to add to the eloquent words of Lord Redcliffe-Maud in that magnificent service of triumphant thanksgiving which we attended on 4th February, but we all have our own memories of Ian Fraser.

"I, after a friendship of 40 years, will always think of him as one who never turned his back but pressed forward never doubting clouds would break. He was a man whose memory will live long beyond our time, whose good name will grow with the years. But one thing I am sure of, he would be the first to say to us, 'Better by far that you should forget and smile, than that you should remember and be sad'."

Speaking for St. Dunstaners, Henry Perrett, of Devizes, endorsed and echoed Dr. Hopewell's tribute to Lord Fraser, reminding the company, "that he had his dear wife and, in fact, a dear friend to all St. Dunstaners, at his right hand throughout all his life." Through his great vision Lord Fraser had chosen the best people for jobs over the years culminating with Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme now his successor. Paraphrasing the famous Remembrance Day lines, Mr. Perrett said, "He grew old, but he did not weary, at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember him."



Mr. Perrett concluded by expressing thanks to all the heads of departments and their staff, to Miss Meyer and to the Manager and staff of the Hotel.

After lunch there was dancing and the prize draw followed by tea and the cutting of a special commemorative cake provided by the Hotel.

#### **From Miss Rogers, Southern Area Welfare Superintendent.**

*May I thank all St. Dunstaners and their wives, who attended the Bristol Reunion, for their kindness in sending to my home a very beautiful flowering plant in compensation for my having to miss the Reunion. I was deeply touched by your thoughts.*

*Phyllis Rogers*

## **LONDON**

On Saturday, 14th June, the Hotel Russell again provided the venue for the reunion of St. Dunstaners living in central London, to which also came others from the Home Counties and as far afield as Hunts., Northants., Oxon., Staffs. and Northern Ireland. There were 85 St. Dunstaners present, 17 from the First World War and 63 from the Second and 5 post-war. With wives, escorts, members of the staff and friends, the total number of people at the reunion was thus nearly 200.

It was a very successful reunion with arrangements made by Miss Davis, assisted by Miss Newbold and Mrs. Thompson from Northern Ireland. Friends included Miss Hoare and Miss Midgley and we were very happy to welcome Canadian St. Dunstaner Charles Hornsby from Victoria, B.C., making his customary biennial visit to the country of his birth with his niece Mrs. Breakspear as escort.

Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., was the member of the Council presiding. In his speech after lunch he first brought greetings from the Council. Sir Douglas thanked various members of the staff, particularly Miss Davis for organising the function, but he added a sad note which was that Lady Fraser had been advised by her doctor not to come. However, she sent her love and best wishes to everyone present and

Sir Douglas felt sure that the company would wish him to take back the same sentiments to her.

"We have a very good turn out today," said Sir Douglas and he particularly welcomed 5 new St. Dunstaners Arthur Purser, Bethnal Green, William Rowland, Lambeth, Thomas Slater, Romford, Sidney Whiting, Isleworth, and Charles McConaghy, Belfast. On that very day, the Queen's official birthday, Mr. McConaghy, blinded in Northern Ireland, had been awarded the Queen's Police Medal for bravery. Next Sir Douglas analysed the types of employment and other occupations followed by the St. Dunstaners attending the reunion, he gave the total number of our people in the United Kingdom and overseas and he named all members of the staff present, headed by the Secretary, Mr. Wills.

"One thing of course that we in this country are particularly concerned about is this awful period of inflation", said Sir Douglas, "I won't attempt to say here what all the clever people in the country of all types are saying. Unfortunately nobody seems able to do anything about it and we all suffer individually and, of course, an organisation like St. Dunstan's must suffer."

#### **St. Dunstan's Personified**

Turning to the subject of the Diamond Jubilee year, Sir Douglas said that he saw two outstanding events. The first was the death of Lord Fraser about whom he said, "To me, serving under him on the Council, he was the personification of St. Dunstan's and I have no doubt, and I am sure you have no doubt, that the one thing he would wish is that his work should continue in the way he shaped it".

The second outstanding event was the re-opening of Ian Fraser House which Sir Douglas thought was a magnificent piece of work, and he paid a tribute to the architects and others concerned, with particular mention of Commandant Fawcett and the staff in Brighton. He concluded by expressing the hope that everyone would have an enjoyable day meeting old friends, and making new friends, and that all would be present at next year's reunion.

In his vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners, Fred Ripley, Wimbledon, said, "I would like to say thank you for



# SIR MIKE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## International Equestrian Expo

Col. Sir Michael Ansell had the great honour of opening the International Equestrian Expo in Adelaide, South Australia on 12th April which was attended, in its closing stages, by H.R.H. Princess Ann and Captain Mark Phillips.

The event, which lasted a fortnight, covered every possible aspect of the horse world: Riding Clubs, Pony Clubs, Polo, Racing, Rodeo, Trotting, Pacing, Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Tent Pegging, and Musical Rides, and covered every breed. Altogether 5,150 horses and ponies took part.

Sir Mike was guest of the organisers, led by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Mr. Robert Clampett. Accompanied by his sister, Mrs. A. Williams, he was met at Adelaide Airport by a group of Expo

officials and appropriately, by Bob Farmer, President of St. Dunstan's, South Australia. During their stay they were allocated a car adorned with the British Horse Society badge.

In addition to the events, exhibitions of equipment, books and pictures were mounted. "I can, with all sincerity, say that there was always something to enjoy and something new to learn," summed up Sir Mike.

Another enjoyable event was Sir Mike's meeting with the St. Dunstaners of South Australia and, as he recalls, "A momentous occasion for me meeting Graham Williams, a test cricketer who had been shot down when flying over North Africa and, as a P.O.W., had taught me to type with one hand. I had not seen him since 1943."

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### London Reunion—*continued*

this splendid occasion today, the excellence of the meal and the soft music. On this beautiful summer day you think of all sorts of places you would like to be, but I feel there is no place I would rather be than here in the warm pleasant sunshine of the comradeship, friendship and the understanding of St. Dunstan's. Our great chief has gone, but that spirit I am sure will continue and live on, and I am sure he would wish it to be like that. I thank all the staff responsible for organising this reunion, it must have taken some organisation. I would like to add my welcome to the visitors from Northern Ireland and visitors from the Midlands and other places and all the wives and escorts. I would also like to thank the members of the staff, who not only come here to help us today, but are responsible all the year round for the comprehensive service which St. Dunstan's provides for us."

After lunch there was dancing to the Talbot Orchestra for those in need of exercise, whilst others talked to friends and members of the staff. There was also the customary draw with prizes presented by Miss Midgley.

### DAEDALUS CAMP FUNDS

At Mrs. Sheila McLeod's suggestion the ladies of Titchfield Camp Liaison Club held a pub supper in aid of camp funds. It was organised by Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Freeman on Wednesday, 7th May, 1975, and the sum of £200 was raised. Thank you ladies.

#### CHARLES STAFFORD

I would like to add a personal note of appreciation and thanks to Sheila McLeod for all the help she has given to the Camp.

How did she get involved? She called to see us at Titchfield Vicarage in 1942 and worked with me in a Service Canteen in the village. I talked about reviving the Camp directly after the war.

The first thing was to start a Camp Fund and we had a fete in the Vicarage garden a week before D Day and made £100 which in those days seemed a lot of money.

Sheila became Hon. Treasurer in 1944 and when plans got under way in 1945 she acted as Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. She was a marvellous secretary and such fun to work with. She has done more for the Lee Camp through the years than anyone. Thank you Sheila.

AVIS SPURWAY



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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After a long absence it is a great pleasure to be writing once more from Ovingdean. As was mentioned in our last notes from Kemp Town, our first visitors in May were the Physiotherapists, who came for their annual Conference. It was a happy reunion, both for them and for those of the staff who were here during their last visit four years ago.

## First Morning

To put it mildly, we struck a few snags—we were surprised on the first morning of the Conference to note that half our visitors came to breakfast looking quite dishy, while the other half resembled the chorus of "Gypsy Love". The explanation of this phenomenon was the failure of all the shaving points on one side of the house. The following day the food lifts had a fit of pique, and stubbornly refused to descend, making lunch half an hour late, but everyone took these small contretemps with good humour. Some days later the writer glanced out of the lounge window and thought "What a pleasant evening", two minutes later, when passing the sliding door to the verandah, rain appeared to be hurling itself in abandoned fury . . . odd! The reason was not "an act of God", but the fallibility of a nameless plumber—a tap went berserk, and caused an overflow. Hastily we add that life here is now more orderly, though less exciting!

On May 12th, we held our first Monday night dance here, and it was good to see so many local St. Dunstaners and their wives and escorts. Matron, in a short speech, welcomed them most warmly, and at the end of a very happy evening, Ted Frearson (the Chairman of the Brighton Club) expressed his pleasure at returning to Ian Fraser House after such a long absence. He felt sure, he added, that he spoke for all the St. Dunstaners present.

During May the Brighton Festival took place, with concerts, recitals, exhibitions, etc., on the theme of "The Grand Tour". One of the happenings was a tour of the Brighton sewers, which turned out to be most interesting, though a trifle heart-stopping at times. The final hazard was

a climb to the surface, using an iron-runged wall ladder, which rose at a sheer 90 degrees. It was a nasty moment. My feminine readers will readily understand that my fear of the climb was quite overshadowed by the fact that I was wearing uniform—which includes a knee-length skirt. Never have I longed more yearningly for a trouser-suit! We emerged into bright sunlight from a manhole situated in the middle of Steine Gardens, and the expressions on the faces of passers-by were a joy to behold. Jaws dropped, eye-brows rose, blank incredulity met our emergence from the bowels of the earth. Great fun!

## Social Life

In addition to the special events, our usual Drives, Bingo sessions, Theatre visits, etc., continued, and one of our newer V.A.D.s, Miss Twell, gave a record concert, which was very popular. On Sunday evening we enjoyed a welcome visit from Mr. and Mrs. Carey of the Brighton Tape Recording Club, and some of their friends. Their programme was both well-produced and varied in content, ranging from Flanders and Swann to an open-air Band Concert in Regent's Park, and then to an old forge in Sussex.

Another Sunday evening was happily spent in the company of "The Arena", three gifted people who write and perform their own material. They wickedly presented a sketch about "Mrs. Queen, head cook at St. Dunstan's" which was savoured (no pun intended) by their appreciative audience. Mickey Burns gave an entertaining speech of thanks in which he mentioned one of the sketches concerning a witches coven. He said it reminded him of the lorry driver who stopped one evening to give a beautiful blonde a lift. When she was seated beside the driver, she warned him that she was a witch and put her hand on his knee. He promptly turned into a lay-by!

That story brings me, surprisingly enough, to our trip to Goodwood Races. For many years we have drawn into the same lay-by a few miles from the course, in order to consume the contents of our lunch boxes. But what had happened to



## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

Although the cost of printing the Derby Sweepstake Tickets this year caused us to raise the price to 20p each, it still seems very popular and we paid out more than ever! There were eighteen runners and the pay-out was as follows:

**1st Prize**—A. S. Emerson, Clacton-on-Sea. *Grundy*. Ticket No. 1528. £249.36

**2nd Prize**—D. Beddoes, Birmingham. *Nobiliary*. Ticket No. 1757. £99.74

**3rd Prize**—S. C. Pike, Brighton. *Hunza Dancer*. Ticket No. 1455. £49.88

All those holding a ticket for the remaining 15 horses received the sum of £6.64.

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## Ovingdean Notes—continued

"our" lay-by? It was now a huge expanse of yellow clay, littered with dumper trucks, lorries and dire warnings of DANGER—HIGH VOLTAGE CABLES. We felt most affronted, but fortunately found a haven a couple of miles further on, and all was well. It really was "Glorious Goodwood" that day—the sun shone, the mood was cheerful, and even the horses came home in the correct order for many of the party—so who could ask for more? Unfortunately the following day was cold, and overcast and much of our luck ran out, but you can't win 'em all!

The month ended with the Bank Holiday weekend—on the Saturday evening a Whist Drive and Dominoes Tournament were held, and on the Sunday we were visited by some very faithful friends, the Cecilian Singers. Their excellent singing and the warmth of their personalities made it a memorable occasion, and they were sincerely thanked in a charming speech by Vic Buck, who reminded us that the choir had been visiting us for 21 years. We trust they will continue to do so for many more.

On Bank Holiday Monday, our usual Dance, with buffet and bar, was held, and a happy evening was enjoyed. It was a great pleasure to welcome some of our old friends from Pearson House at the month's events. We hope very much that they will continue to visit us and in this way strengthen the bonds between the two houses.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**From George Fallowfield, Durrington, Worthing, Sussex**

Britain is in a poor state at the moment what with one thing and another and it is our duty to do all we can, as we have done in the past to wriggle out of the mess and one way to do this is by choosing, or changing, to a profitable hobby.

Prior to the 1914-1918 war when I lived in the rich lands of Hertfordshire, most people kept pigs on their allotments and poultry in their backyards.

If you went to Australia you would see that people in small towns keep one or two sheep in their gardens, they get good prices for wool before the sheep is killed for eating.

The most fierce looking bullocks are really the gentlest of animals and this is proved by the length of time it takes to annoy them at a bullfight so there is no reason why one with a barn should not take up the fattening of a bullock for Christmas.

If you started this kind of hobby the price of meat and poultry would quickly come down and, do not listen to stories about lawns, the people who want you to have lawns have their money invested in firms that make lawn-mowers and relations who are butchers and want to keep the price of meat high without any competition.

I would go as far as to suggest that, in view of the grave state of affairs our public Bowling greens, cricket and football grounds, golf courses and tennis courts as well as our parks, should be turned over to grazing land.

Talking books could be made on this subject and if anybody wants close-up hints, I will be only too pleased to advise but please write in Braille only.

## Editor's Note

*Please do not telephone George Fallowfield as he is one of our deaf/blind St. Dunstaners but he would be delighted to hear from you if you would be kind enough to write in Braille.*



# 150th Anniversary of Braille System

## *International Conference in Paris*

by Richard Dufton

A two-day Conference was held in the imposing UNESCO building in the Avenue de Suffren on 22nd and 23rd May, sponsored by the European Regional Committee of the W.C.W.B. The Conference was attended by some hundreds of blind and sighted delegates from 35 countries.

The Conference opened with greetings from M. Amblard, President of the Union of War Blind in France, and he was followed by an opening address by M. Lenoir, Secretary of State for Health.

### **Louis Braille**

The first paper "Louis Braille: His life and work" was presented by Andre Nicolle, Chairman of the Organising Committee.

The speaker touched on many biographical and historical aspects, notably the interaction of Capt. Barbier's "Night-writing" tactile code on which young Louis Braille continually worked to improve, evolving his own famous code, in a few short years.

The interesting point was made that, blinded at the age of three, he could not have had a knowledge of language to the extent that mental imagery might have influenced his approach in developing his code and an alphabet.

The Neuro-physiology of touch was the subject of a highly professional paper in which the author referred to "the seven senses of touch" . . . the perception of pressure, temperature, relative movement, impact and so on, all combined to give blind people a sense that should be highly valued.

While specific reference to the reading of Braille was not made, the author clearly had this in mind . . . we all know about movement in reading Braille, but "impacting" is the principle upon which the latest reading machine, the Optacon, is based.

The speaker went on to consider the brain's role in continuously synthesising information from all the sense organs . . .

"we feel as we learn to feel" and "we think with the same words that we talk with". Finally, there was a plea for a relaxed outlook on life in order to offset the effects of nervous fatigue. The sense of touch had a significant role to play and many tactual readers get the same beneficial effects that are known to result from visual reading.

M. Pierre Henri, Honorary Professor at the Valentin Haüy Institute, an acknowledged expert, gave a lucid account of the origins and evolution of Braille. He referred to the logical approach adopted—only 10 of the 15 possible combinations of the upper 4 dots in the Braille cell had been used as the base line of the Braille system. Capt. Barbier had used two columns of six dots per column to represent 36 word sounds in French. Louis Braille "cut the cell in two" to give his system a degree of universality that even now was still expanding world-wide. The author made interesting reference to Sir Clutha Mackenzie whom UNESCO had commissioned in 1949 to examine multilingual aspects of promoting Braille in India. Later in the Conference a UNESCO speaker confirmed that Sir Clutha's comprehensive report "World Braille Usage 1954" was out of print but funds had been allocated for an updated edition to be published.

### **Mr. Eric Boulter**

Mr. Eric Boulter, Director General, R.N.I.B., gave comprehensive coverage to the topic of the Braille system in a vocational context.

Valentin Haüy had been moved to provide training for the blind debarred from many occupational avenues and there had been a transformation in the 1½ centuries since the Braille system was evolved to provide both a reading and a writing facility.

The requirements of musicians, mathematicians, linguists and the computer specialist could be met and expressed in Braille with equal facility to widen the



range of employment and academic achievement.

Tribute was paid to both Valentin Haüy and to the illustrious Louis Braille whose system was even now under contemplation in several countries for wider adaptation in computer science, programming, and the other aspects of data processing.

There were two papers concerning the teaching of Braille in schools—one French and the other from the U.S.S.R.

The French speaker had 30 years' experience and expressed surprise that, even now, some countries had not taken up the teaching of Braille in formal education programmes for the blind and visually handicapped. It was a moving, perceptive presentation, highlighting many of the psychological problems involved but also the rewards of group teaching sessions when both Braille and language blossomed without inhibition.

### **Russian Speaker**

The Russian speaker gave a wide ranging account of teaching practice and procedures in the Soviet Union—extending from pre-school instruction through boarding school and higher education establishments to adult education for those already in employment in industry or commerce. The operation of Libraries in towns, cities and in factories was mentioned, together with the close ties that educators have with the Institute of Defectology Researchers and their investigations to improve and adapt the Braille code for use with new outlets. A figure of 630 symbols was given for their latest scientific and mathematical notation with an even higher figure to meet the needs of advancing educational and technological developments in a range of disciplines.

A Danish paper dealt with a modern technological approach in that country to the production of Braille books.

The speaker first made historical reference to relief letters formed on small cubes, to aid the teaching of individually blind people as early as 1740. He also referred to Valentin Haüy's epic step forward in Paris in the year 1780 when he became the first to use enlarged letter shapes formed in relief on paper and

it was this system that young Louis Braille learned as a boy of 10 on first entering the Paris Institute in 1819.

Concerning modern production, it was stated that the Danes had rationalised their Braille system as recently as 1971, increasing the number of whole word contractions and reducing the number of lesser contractions preparatory to an advanced data processing approach to Braille book production.

Care had been taken to ensure that new readers could handle existing Braille.

Braille book masters are produced as an alpha/numeric equivalent of print, recorded on magnetic tape—the information being key punched in, at a commercial centre.

### **Printing Centre**

At the Organisation's printing centre a small computer reads the magnetic tape masters and feeds this information to control a high speed line embosser. Embossing rates quoted were as high as 20 pages per minute or 15 minutes for a 300 page book.

A West German Jurist reviewing the position of blind and partially sighted in the legal profession in that country, commented on the invaluable role that Braille played in their unique communications problem.

Over 60 Judges and Public Prosecutors are concerned and, while they are provided with a sighted assistant to aid in the dispensation of their duties, the use of Braille helped to solve many problems. For example, the speaker himself had compiled 10,000 pages of reference information and he quoted a total number in the legal profession as being 165 actively engaged in the several aspects of Law in the Federal Republic.

He did not feel that Braille would be replaced as a result of technological advances in communications methods, but rather that it would still compliment the improved recording and information retrieval aids, still to come.

An Honorary Professor in Music from the Valentin Haüy Institute referred to musical notation. It had existed from as early as 1829 when Louis Braille evolved his version. The code had undergone many adaptations since that time and students and choristers themselves had



played a part in evolving methods which enabled them to follow quite difficult works.

The method adopted by organists was described—it involved playing with the right hand, reading the music with the left and operating the left pedal for bass.

The final paper in the formal sessions was presented by a Computer Scientist from the Ministry of Finance. He emphasised the suitability of the Braille code in this area, against a background of other developments in voice communication with the computer. Information tactually displayed was very attractive to the specialist, for the code with its normal permutation and its almost unlimited potential for adaptation was destined to play a significant part in expanding the ambit of blind people in this field.

### **New Development**

New developments would enable information to be fed into a computer with ease, while processing the output in tactile form was the subject of current research and development in a number of countries.

Aspects concerning the teaching of computer science to blind students were considered together with developments in mathematical calculators which also displayed their answers in Braille—albeit in adapted form, more akin to mathematical notation. The presentation concluded with reference to high speed document copying developments—to provide rapid conversion of typescript or other print material into Braille with the minimum of delay. The Conference must have felt that technology was indeed “catching up with Braille”.

### **Social Interludes**

Outside the Conference Programme there were social interludes and visits to the Braille Library and Printing Centre and to the nearby Valentin Haüy Institute for the young blind, which currently has resident 100 boys and 80 girls under instruction.

9,000 readers make use of the Braille Library and numbers of volunteer transcribers emboss specialist works as these are requested.

In the Valentin Haüy Institute was a fine display of early communicating frames

and small hand operated machines—in the main they appeared to give a graphic representation of somewhat enlarged letter shapes. There was also the first bound Braille book on display dating from 1838, its pages were about 50% heavier gauge than present-day thick manilla.

### **Students' Orchestra**

The Institute's music salon with organ console and pipes across the entire width of one wall was most impressive, and the students' orchestra gave a concert on the first evening to the delegates.

It was fitting that the anniversary programme ended with a visit by coach to Louis Braille's birthplace at Coupvray, some miles from Paris.

### **Mr. Dufton Speaks**

Towards the end of the Conference on the Friday evening, when appreciation was being expressed by speakers from a number of countries, I was able to address the Congress for a minute or two on behalf of St. Dunstaners of both Wars, paying tribute to Louis Braille whose system had played an enormous part in the lives of so many of us.

I quoted the last line of a Lord Lytton poem which seemed singularly appropriate to the occasion and the name we were honouring—it is as follows:

“Genius does what it must  
and talent does what it can.”

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## **FISHING**

With the re-opening of Ian Fraser House, fishing will again become one of the activities provided for the enjoyment of the St. Dunstaners staying in the Home. It is proposed to arrange three expeditions each year, four days in the Spring, five days following Sports Weekend and four days in the Autumn when the necessary tackle etc. will be provided by St. Dunstan's for those who do not have their own. Numbers will be limited to 18 fishermen per day.

The Fishing Club will, of course, arrange other expeditions independently, according to the wishes of members.

C. D. WILLS



# CADER IDRIS CLIMBED











*An early halt finds Bob Fullard, Arthur Rowlands and Ray Peart to the fore, also in the picture Hugh Roberts (with rope) of the Snowdonia National Park.*

## CADER IDRIS CLIMBED

"Half a million boots went marching through hell", sang Bob Fullard gaily as he came safely off the mountain after the successful climb of Cader Idris on June 7th. He then, like the rest of the party, hastened to remove his boots and cool his feet in the mountain stream which flowed beside the car park that was our base for the expedition.

Something like six hours before we had swung out of the car park, each St. Dunstaner with two sighted escorts, at the beginning of the first complete ascent of the "Chair of the Giant" by a St. Dunstan's team.

Ahead of our group went three expert climbers headed by Hugh Roberts of the Snowdonia National Park, responsible

for the safety of our expedition. Two portable radio transmitters kept in touch with the National Park Land Rover in the car park. Within 15 minutes a call relayed from the mountain would have brought the R.A.F. helicopter to our aid. In addition a mountain rescue team in the area was also on call.

Fortunately, despite the blistering heat of the day we had no casualties and the experts were very pleased with the performance of our team. The climb took 2 hours 45 minutes from the start at the car park until our last member reached the 2,927 foot summit called Pen-y-Gadair.

At first our path ran through trees but these soon thinned as we climbed steeper slopes, where only scrub and

*Overleaf: On the top of the world – the party, including escorts, pose for the camera on the summit Pen-y-Gadair*



grass alternated with rocky outcrops. As the way steepened the party spread out—farther apart than our leader, Bob Thomas, would have liked had the weather been bad.

The first rest was beneath an escarpment where John Bond, of the Merioneth Education Authority gave a short talk on the local landscape and geology. While this was going on, Hugh Roberts and his advance party were fixing a rope to help St. Dunstaners up the steep escarpment on to a ridge.

Up went the St. Dunstaners, commando-style on to the ridge. Most of them stripped now of the warm clothes donned in deference to the warnings that, whatever the temperature below, it could be very cold on the mountain. So, indeed, it must usually be, but on June 7th, the sun shone on the righteous as well as on the unrighteous and even at the summit scarcely a breeze stirred.

Now the views were magnificent, although haze denied the sighted members a clear view of the sea, quite easily visible from the higher slopes. Bob Thomas recalls one great occasion when he actually saw the mountains of Ireland in the far distance. There was opportunity for the sighted to describe the scene at the next stop before the most strenuous scramble—ropes again to prevent St. Dunstaners straying over a 1,000 foot drop down to a lake, Llyn-y-Gadair.



*Tom Lukes on the rope at the first scramble.*

*John Simpson and Stan Tutton with their escorts on the escarpment.*







*Two aspects of the final ascent:  
Above Hugh Roberts watches as Arthur  
Rowlands and his son Gareth climb on.  
Below: Alan Wortley and his escorts make a  
last determined effort.*

After that the mountain had no more defences to offer and the party gathered at the cairn marking the summit before eating a picnic lunch, washed down with cans of beer or soft drinks according to preference.

After lunch, posing for triumphant photographs on "top of the world" and Bob Thomas "splicing the mainbrace" with a celebratory bottle of rum, the descent began to that refreshingly cool stream.

At the Red Lion, Dinas Mawddwy that evening we had experience of the Welsh love of song. Travellers from miles around come to the Red Lion for the singing and a huge extempore Welsh choir spilling into corridors and even out into the car park, harmonised all the famous and historic Welsh songs until closing time. It was an experience not to be missed.

Bob Thomas had organised a visit to Coed-y-Brenin, The King's Forest, on Sunday. Reg Wheeler, the Recreation Forester took charge here. He is that rarity, an enthusiast who can fascinate the layman with his subject—trees and all to do with forestry. We had a picnic lunch beside a waterfall, a visit to a now





disused gold mine, from which the precious metal was last extracted in 1934.

Later at the Visitor Centre, there was the opportunity to examine the machinery formerly used to crush the ore and to handle stuffed exhibits of the wild-life of Coed-y-Brenin. The exhibition is designed in the modern manner. There is a recorded lecture illustrated by colour slides and the whole Centre is an informative introduction to the Forest. We were guests here of Jim Hamilton, Chief Forester, who personally took a hand in telling St. Dunstaners about his 34 square mile charge. The foresters' ladies, including Rowena Thomas, arranged tea for us all before we returned to Dinas Mawddwy where we rounded off a most successful weekend by entertaining to dinner our host and hostess in Wales, Bob and Rowena Thomas.

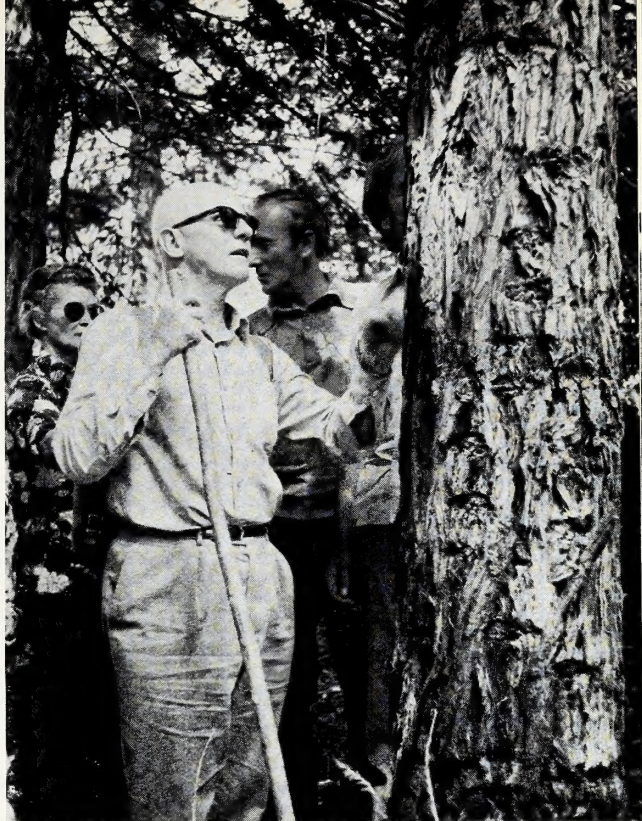
## A St. Dunstaners Account

Alan Wortley writes:

Saturday, 7th of June, had dawned clear and warm, a perfect Summer's day. Stan Tutton, Bob Fullard, Tom Lukes, John Simpson, Arthur Rowlands, Ray Peart, and myself mustered at the foot of Cader Idris with Bob Thomas and guides from mountain rescue and Forestry Commission, Arthur Rowlands is a policeman who lost his sight in a shooting incident in 1961. We were very pleased to have him with us.

There was the sound of rushing water from a stream off to our right as we set off with the sun warm on our backs. As we climbed, conversation ceased, but there was plenty to say at each resting place. Up and up we toiled. Articles of clothing were rapidly shed—not for us the one degree drop in temperature for every three hundred feet ascended. It just became hotter and hotter. Johnny Simpson, remembering the cold day of his previous climb, was attired to accompany Shackleton to the South Pole, but even he had to discard his waterproof leggings, Sou'Wester and one sweater.

Our guides were marvellous, steering us past pitfalls and picking the better route. While we rested and quenched our thirst, John Bond enlightened us about local



*Putting his new knowledge to the test in the forest is Bob Fullard.*

geology. A foot or two in front of us, he said, there was a sheer drop to a lake hundreds of feet below. I retreated to a safer position! The lake was two hundred and fifty feet deep, filling a fault in the rock structure. The mountain tip itself was once the floor of a valley with other mountains stretching majestically above it; but those had long since been eroded . . .

Our thanks to the advance party who kept just that bit ahead of us and fixed ropes to guide us over the more difficult parts.

I felt life was really great when I reached the trig point at the summit cheered on by a few other people who had chosen that day to make the climb. Bob Thomas gave us each a most welcome tot of rum—he was full of kind surprises this man. The St. Dunstaners sang out three hearty cheers to him and all our helpers. Then a group of children, who had made the ascent by another route, sang some beautiful local songs in Welsh for our





*John Simpson and escort return to the heat of a summer's day from the chill of the disused gold mine shaft.*

benefit. As their voices drifted away across the valley, I felt at peace with the world.

The descent was rather more difficult for me and the sun continued to bake us. What bliss to reach base camp and dabble our feet in the ice cold water of a mountain stream.

We returned to our hostelry and after dining on fresh salmon caught in the nearby Dovey, there was a sing song in the bar. The fact that the lyrics were in gaelic or something, didn't stop us from humming the tunes.

The next day was spent in "The King's Forest" and was just as perfect. Reg Wheeler with his easy way of talking was a fountain of knowledge about trees. He pushed my finger into a blister in the bark of a grand fir and out squirted an aromatic fluid that I can still smell on my handkerchief despite several washings. We were taken a long way into the shaft of a gold mine which was still operational until shortly before the War. The hillside was

riddled with passages. It was easy to trace the gold bearing rock strata.

The excellent Forestry Museum could easily have been designed with blind people in mind. We were allowed to grind quartz into dust with machinery still in working order. All the animals of the forest were there for us to handle—stuffed of course. I was able to make my first acquaintance with a polecat which can still be found in the area. The roof was supported by all the different types of tree trunks. We were given a most delicious tea. Rowena Thomas and all the other helpers really put themselves out to make us feel at home. David Castleton, our intrepid photographer, should find himself in the Guinness Book of Records for the amount of food he put away that day!!!

To sum up . . . A perfect weekend, highly recommended, and I'm sure I carry the thanks of the other members of the St. Dunstons Mountaineering Club to all who helped in the venture.





Above: Stan Tutton, Joan Wortley, John Simpson and Alan Wortley get to know the outline of a polecat at the Coed-y-Brenin Visitors' Centre. On the right is their mentor, Reg Wheeler, Recreation Forester.

Below: The final celebrations at the Red Lion, in the centre are Rowena and Bob Thomas with, standing, Chris Rowlands 'Mine Host'.





## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**James J. Costello** of Garstang, Lancs., who joined St. Dunstan's in May, 1975. He served with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in the Second World War. He is married and has a son and a daughter.

**David Walford Davies** of Port Talbot, came to St. Dunstan's in June, 1975. He served with the Royal Engineers during the 1st World War and is married with one son.

**Robert Dewhurst** of Bolton, Lancashire, came to St. Dunstan's in May, 1975. He served in the First World War in the Royal Field Artillery and was wounded in Belgium in 1917. He is a widower.

**Hubert Harrison** of Lytham St. Annes, Lancs., joined St. Dunstan's in May, 1975. He served with the 10th Scottish Rifles in the 1st World War and was wounded at Loos in 1915. He is a widower and has two married daughters.

**Edwin Kippax** of Burnley, Lancashire, joined St. Dunstan's in May, 1975. He served with the Cheshire Regiment during the First World War. He is married and has one daughter.

**Colin Mills** of Mexborough, Yorkshire became a full St. Dunstaner in May 1975. He served with the Royal Corps of Signals in the 1st World War and is married with four daughters.

**Sidney Gordon James Whiting** of Isleworth, Middlesex, joined St. Dunstan's in June, 1975. He served with the Royal Fusiliers during the 2nd World War from 1940 until 1946 when he was discharged. He worked for the Metropolitan Water Board until 1957. He is married with three grown-up children.

## International Seminar

St. Dunstan's in co-operation with the American Foundation for the Blind held a two day seminar on documentation research in London at the end of May.

The A.F.B., here represented by Dr. Milton Graham and Dr. Leslie Clark, had proposed that the seminar should be dedicated to the memory of Lord Fraser—as a tribute to his great contribution to research which was directed towards reducing the main handicaps of blindness.

The topic for discussion at the seminar concerned the documentation on an international scale of all the information appertaining to the blind and visually handicapped.

There has been in existence a Research Information Service published and distributed in many countries by the A.F.B. since early in the last decade. However, there has been the growing problem of documenting the results of research in an ever increasing number of areas affecting the blind. Rehabilitation and educational aspects are expanding rapidly and this was a factor in the A.F.B.'s initiative in proposing a joint seminar.

In addition to R.N.I.B. and St. Dunstan's representatives present, there were documentation specialists from Austria, West Germany and Switzerland to consider if any existing information service might be modified or adapted to provide comprehensive reference to activities in the specific areas mentioned.

It is hoped that the decisions arrived at will lead eventually to an effective information service which will not only meet the requirements of scientific and technological researchers but also those concerned with rehabilitation, training, educational and employment aspects.

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**John Ernest Storer Edwards** of Ashstead, Surrey, came to St. Dunstan's on 8th May, 1975. He served in the Second World War in the Royal Air Force and was injured at Kidbrooke in 1944 by a bomb blast. As a result of his war injuries John's health has deteriorated and he has been unable to work since 1969 but prior to this he was with the Police. He is married and has a married daughter.



## STAFF OBITUARY

### Miss Mildred Dagnell

St. Dunstaners and their wives will be sad to learn of the death of Miss Mildred Dagnell, on Saturday 24th May, 1975, from a distressing illness borne with great courage.

She first joined St. Dunstan's staff in 1947, in Handicrafts (the Rug Shop), where she remained until 1951. She returned to St. Dunstan's in 1954, as a V.A.D., and with the exception of certain periods away, remained until her retirement in 1973.

In 1968 she became the Senior Escort and Entertainments Officer, and it was in this work that her special talents had full scope—particularly her skill as a pianist.

On her retirement she went to live with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Mackie, in Solihull. From January 1974 her condition deteriorated, but Mr. and Mrs. Mackie nursed her most devotedly in their home until she had to be admitted to a voluntary hospital (The Christadelphian Hospital) where she remained until her death.

A collection was taken in both houses at Brighton, from St. Dunstaners and staff. This was so great that as well as sending a floral tribute (carnations) just over £10 was sent to the hospital, where she was lovingly nursed, which was in accordance with her sister's wishes. Miss Newbold attended the cremation service. A letter from Mrs. Mackie is printed below.

Dear Everyone,

I would like to thank you all for the lovely flowers and in fact all the wonderful help and support you gave to my sister during her illness. She always felt so much a part of St. Dunstan's until the last, and the tapes were a joy to her. She felt near to you all.

Your help and close contact was a great support to me and in fact I felt part of St. Dunstan's myself.

My very grateful thanks to you all,

Yours very sincerely,

Elsie Mackie

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*have in lib*  
Cat. No. 339

### And There Was Light

by Jacques Lusseyran

Translated by E. R. Cameron

Read by Alvar Lidell

Reading Time 11 hours

Born in Paris in 1924, Jacques Lusseyran was blinded at the age of eight in a classroom accident. In a few weeks he had adjusted to what was for him an exciting new world of sound and "inner light". His parents, professional people of great understanding and imagination, decided that he would return to his "sighted" school.

Learning was easy and he soon outstripped his classmates and went on to the *Lycee Montaigne* in preparation for the university—even *L'Ecole Normale Supérieure*, the most uniquely prestigious educational establishment in France. (Later he was barred from taking the examination to the *Ecole Normale* by a Vichy decree that only the "physically sound" could be considered.)

He was sixteen when the Germans occupied Paris. Disgusted with the apathy he saw around him, he decided to organise a Resistance Movement. On the first day there were three of them, by the end of the week six hundred young people had joined.

Soon the organisation became a serious threat to the Germans—Jacques and his young friends celebrated *Quatorze Juillet* by openly distributing thousands of copies of their underground newspaper in the streets and the Metro (they even handed them to German officers!).

But the friends were betrayed. The leaders of the Resistance were rounded up and sent to Buchenwald. Of the two thousand transported with him, the author records that only thirty survived.

His own survival must have been little short of miraculous—he said it was the hand of God.

After the war he continued with his studies and eventually became a University Professor—although the book covers only the first twenty-one years of his life.



This is a most remarkable book, sensitively and beautifully written by an extraordinary, almost unique, human being. His joy of life never deserted him, not even in the appalling conditions of the concentration camp.

*Cat. No. 1178*

### **Puppet on a Chain**

by Alistair Maclean

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading Time 8½ hours*

This is what the movie-trailers would undoubtedly refer to as "an action-packed, fast-moving thriller!" And it is. The format is pretty much that of most of its fellows.

The goodie is a self-sufficient, fast-thinking, practically indestructable "loner"—from the Narcotics Division of Interpol (where else?) with not one, but two, very delectable girl-agents to assist with the easy bits. The baddies are very bad indeed and make Moriarty and Dr. Fu Manchu seem like Sunday School teachers by comparison.

Naturally he solves the case and ties up all the loose ends in a matter of days, although this particular thorn has been plaguing the side of the Dutch police for years. And he does it all by himself—with the entire Amsterdam force just panting to lend a hand.

This is a most enjoyable tale of chaps being thoroughly nasty to each other. And there is a most agreeable amount of bloodshed. And, would you believe, absolutely no sex. Which is a very, very welcome change!

## **CLUB NEWS**

### **MIDLAND**

Even though the rebuilding programme at the Headquarters of the Royal British Legion, where we hold our meetings, is still being carried out, we managed to meet as usual on Sunday, 11th May even though we were rather restricted for space and we were only able to use one room.

Nevertheless we managed to play off three of our quarter finals in the domino competition.

The meeting was quite well attended and an excellent tea was provided for us by Mrs. Cath Androlia, everything was home-made and really beautiful. We all thanked her most sincerely for her very hard work.

Our June meeting was held on Sunday, 8th, and once again we had to put up with small inconveniences, but all went well and the last quarter final match was played off.

We also had the pleasure of meeting Miss Florence Round, who is the fiancée of Dennis Beddoes, one of our club members. They hope to be married soon. We all wished them the best of good fortune and drank a toast to their good health and happiness.

Tea for this particular meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Sallie Bilcliff and once again, home-made cakes were provided. We gave her our warm thanks for a grand spread.

Next month we hope to be back to normal with our club rooms in full use, the rebuilding of the bar completed.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
Secretary

### **LONDON**

The winners in our Domino Games in May were as follows:

1st May	1	<b>G. Stanley</b>
		<b>J. Padley</b>
		<b>C. Hancock</b>
8th May	1	<b>C. Hancock</b>
	2	J. Padley
		G. Stanley
		W. Miller
15th May	1	<b>W. Miller</b>
		<b>W. Phillips</b>
22nd May	1	<b>J. Padley</b>
	2	R. Armstrong
		W. Miller
		J. Lynch
29th May	1	<b>W. Miller</b>
	2	<b>C. Hancock</b>

### **FAREWELL PARTY**

The name of Bill Phillips has been familiar to us all over the years in the pages of the *Review*. Many in the field of sport . . . first in the 1968 totally blind sections for sprinting, long jump, discus



and free style swimming to name but a few. Then there was the "Sports Seventy" and again first in the list of Victors Ludorum. Bill also was a member of a team of four who were invited by the French war blinded to the very first International Winter Sports at Courchevel in March 1972. This time he won a gold medal.

We of the London Club are grateful to Bill for his active membership of our Thursday Club and also the Bridge Section, and he also has served on both committees. It was a great pleasure to attend the very happy party on Thursday, 15th May when his many friends gathered together to wish him, and his wife, Nancy, long life and happiness for their retirement from the London scene, to the fresh air and salt spray of Saltdean.

Our members spent a very happy evening with music and dancing, and the delicious refreshments provided by Mrs. Phillips. The party really went with a swing, a memorable occasion in honour of a long and happy association.

Then as a farewell gift to the Phillips, members and wives and friends of the London Club presented them with a pair of silver candlesticks and a crystal bowl.

A void has been left in the Club which will not be easy to fill. Apropos to this we hope to be able to read in the *Review* that Bill will be equally busy in the future down Brighton way.

W. MILLER

### **To all our friends at the London Club**

Bill and I wish to thank all our dear friends at the Thursday evening club for the most generous gifts that were presented to us last Thursday on the occasion of our retirement to Saltdean. We were deeply touched at the generosity and good wishes for the future.

I cannot say it was an exceptionally jolly evening because we have not many Thursdays that were anything else. We are leaving the London Club but NOT we know our friends, for good that is. We hope to meet our friends fairly often either in Brighton or London. There is no doubt that we shall want to come back to the fold as often as possible.

Thank you Dear Dear friends (my words—not Bill's). Keep in touch all of you,

Love

Nancy and Bill Phillips

## **BRIDGE NOTES**

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### **The Masters Versus St. Dunstons**

On Saturday, 7th June, it was our pleasure and privilege to welcome L.C.C.B.A. (The Masters). This annual fixture is the highlight in the St. Dunstan's Bridge Card. As usual, St. Dunstaners travelled from all over the country to take part in this event, and as usual we were well and truly beaten, but to be beaten by players of this calibre is no disgrace. I can only hope we learn and benefit from the experience.

There were five teams of four on either side and this Tournament was very well directed by Mr. Michael Green. This function is normally performed by Mr. P. Charters, now happily recovered after a long and serious illness but to everybody's pleasure, he came along and played for the Masters. I hope he will be joining us for many years to come. Good luck Percy.

I would also like to thank Miss I. Daly, Secretary of the L.C.C.B.A. for organising their teams and also like to thank all the members of the L.C.C.B.A. for joining us on this very happy occasion, and to add even more pleasure and enjoyment to the occasion, the Masters presented each of the St. Dunstaners taking part with a bottle of sherry, and as an extra, a bottle of port each to the winning St. Dunstan's team.

### **Prizes**

The members of the winning L.C.C.B.A. team were each presented with a prize selected from products made by St. Dunstaners, and consisted of one contemporary coffee table, one bathroom cabinet and two wool rugs.



Final scores and positions will be found below. Thank you Masters for coming, and we are looking forward to next year's fixture already and in conclusion, I would like to thank Norman Smith and all his willing helpers for providing a very nice tea.

J. LYNCH

#### For the London County Contract Bridge Association

- 1 J. Gardner, W. Pitch, K. Jenkins,  
S. Cocheme +3530
- 2 J. Sharples, R. Sharples, W. Pencharz,  
W. Costyn +2520
- 3 Miss Vi Daly, J. Cook, J. Hunt,  
Miss L. Frazer +1860
- 4 Dr. Fox, Mrs. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. Riley  
+1740
- 5 P. Charters, M. Green, Mrs. King,  
Mrs. Meleson +1200

#### For St. Dunstan's

- 1 P. Nuyens, A. Caldwell,  
R. Armstrong, Mrs. Vi Delaney -950
- 2 J. Whitcombe, H. King, W. Phillips,  
F. Dickerson -1130
- 3 J. Lynch, L. Douglass, R. Freer,  
W. Allen -2430
- 4 H. Meleson, J. Padley, W. Miller,  
Miss Vera Kemmish -2980
- 5 W. Lethbridge, W. Claydon,  
R. Goding, J. T. Simmons -3360

## FAMILY NEWS

### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Blake* of Chertsey, Surrey, are pleased to announce the marriage of their only son, Brian John, to Miss Ann Cockcroft of Crowthorne, on 23rd March, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bick*, Leamington Spa, Warks., are pleased to announce the marriage of their eldest son, Christopher to Christina Large, also of Leamington Spa, at St. John's Church, Leamington Spa, on 31st May, 1975.

### Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Clarke* of Blackpool, Lancs., who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on 30th May, 1975. There was a family party to mark the occasion.

Warmest congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. D. Moss* of Christchurch, nr. Bournemouth, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 3rd June, 1975.

### Grandfathers

#### Congratulations to:

*Tom Basson* of Bognor Regis, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his fifth grandchild—a grand-daughter, born on the 5th June, the first child of his daughter, Geraldine Hannis, of Cheltenham.

*David Bell* of Edinburgh who is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild, Guy Alexander, born on 25th May, 1975, at Cuckfield, Sussex, to his daughter, Diana and son-in-law, Roger.

*James O'Hara* of Wimbledon, S.W.19, who is proud to announce the safe arrival of his first grandson, John Paul, born to his daughter Ann and his son-in-law, Paul, on 15th April, 1975.

*Herbert Greasley* of Coventry, who is pleased to announce the birth of their third grandchild—Scott Graham, born to his daughter, Julie on 27th March, 1975, and is a second son for Julie.

### Great Grandfathers

#### Many congratulations to:

*William Baker* of Caernarvon, North Wales, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his 8th great grandchild, Carol Ann who was born recently.

*Robert Finch* of Birmingham who is pleased to announce the birth of a great grandson, born to his grandson, Michael and grand-daughter-in-law, Pauline on 5th May, 1975.

*Arthur Rowe* of Newcastle, Staffs. has pleasure in announcing the safe arrival of another great grandson, Ian Rigby, born on 13th December, 1974.



*James McClintock* of Marple, Southport, has been made President of the Romily and Marple Dog Training Club. Mr. and Mrs. McClintock have been very active in the recently formed Social Club for the blind in Marple.

## Deaths

**We offer our very sincere sympathy to:**

*Miss Elsie Aldred* of Warrington, Lancs., who mourns the death of her mother on 27th May, 1975.

*James Joseph O'Donnell* of Dublin, mourns the death of his father on 12th May, 1975 at the age of 61 years.

*Glyndwr Jones* of Folkestone, Kent, mourns the death of his brother who passed away in February 1975. Glyndwr's brother was a preacher and collapsed and died during the course of a service at a Baptist Chapel in Swansea.

*Peter Spencer* of Weston-super-Mare, mourns the death of his mother on 13th May, 1975. Mrs. Spencer was 80 years of age.

*Loreto Rea* of Longbridge, Birmingham, mourns the death of his mother who passed away in February 1975.

*Isaac Ostle*, Cockermouth, Cumbria, mourns the death of his mother, who passed away on 16th May at the age of 86.

He enlisted in the Norfolk regiment in September 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1916. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1920 and trained in basket making, a craft in which he did excellent work, carrying this out from his home.

He exhibited with some success in local shows and the Princess Victoria showed interest in his work and visited him in his home in order to see this. Both Mr. and Mrs. Buckle were in service at Sandringham House in their youth, Joe was employed as a groom. In the later years of his life he very much enjoyed visiting the Sandringham estate and cherished mementoes of his service there.

In 1927 Joe opened a small shop in order to sell tobacco and confectionery and later undertook some boarding of dogs, fitting these activities in with his basket work.

Over the years he was a regular visitor to Brighton for holidays and always enjoyed attending the East Anglian Reunion. Five years ago, due to failing health, Mr. and Mrs. Buckle had to give up their own home and went to live in residential accommodation, first in Wisbech and then in 1973 near King's Lynn, an area to which they were both happy to return, having known it all their lives. Joe was taken ill and admitted to hospital towards the end of May and sadly passed away there five days later.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jane Buckle.

### **Leslie Frederick May. Royal Artillery**

Leslie Frederick May, late of Lower Kingswood, Surrey, and of recent months living at Pearson House, died on 28th May in the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. He was 66 years of age.

He enlisted in the 2nd World War in the Royal Artillery but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1973. He worked as a Surveyor with a Brewery Company until he retired in 1971. During the last months of his life he had been staying at Pearson House.

### **Albert Edward Patton. Worcester Regiment**

Albert Edward Patton of Portsmouth died on 7th June, 1975, at the age of 86 years.

He enlisted in the Worcester Regiment in 1905 and served with them until his discharge in 1923. He was wounded in the 1st World War but his sight did not deteriorate until later on in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1957. He visited our homes in Brighton many times where he is well remembered for his distinctive cap and matching waistcoats which he invariably wore together with a fresh flower in his buttonhole. He did not enjoy good health in recent years and was nursed devotedly by his wife.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Gladys Patton and members of his family.

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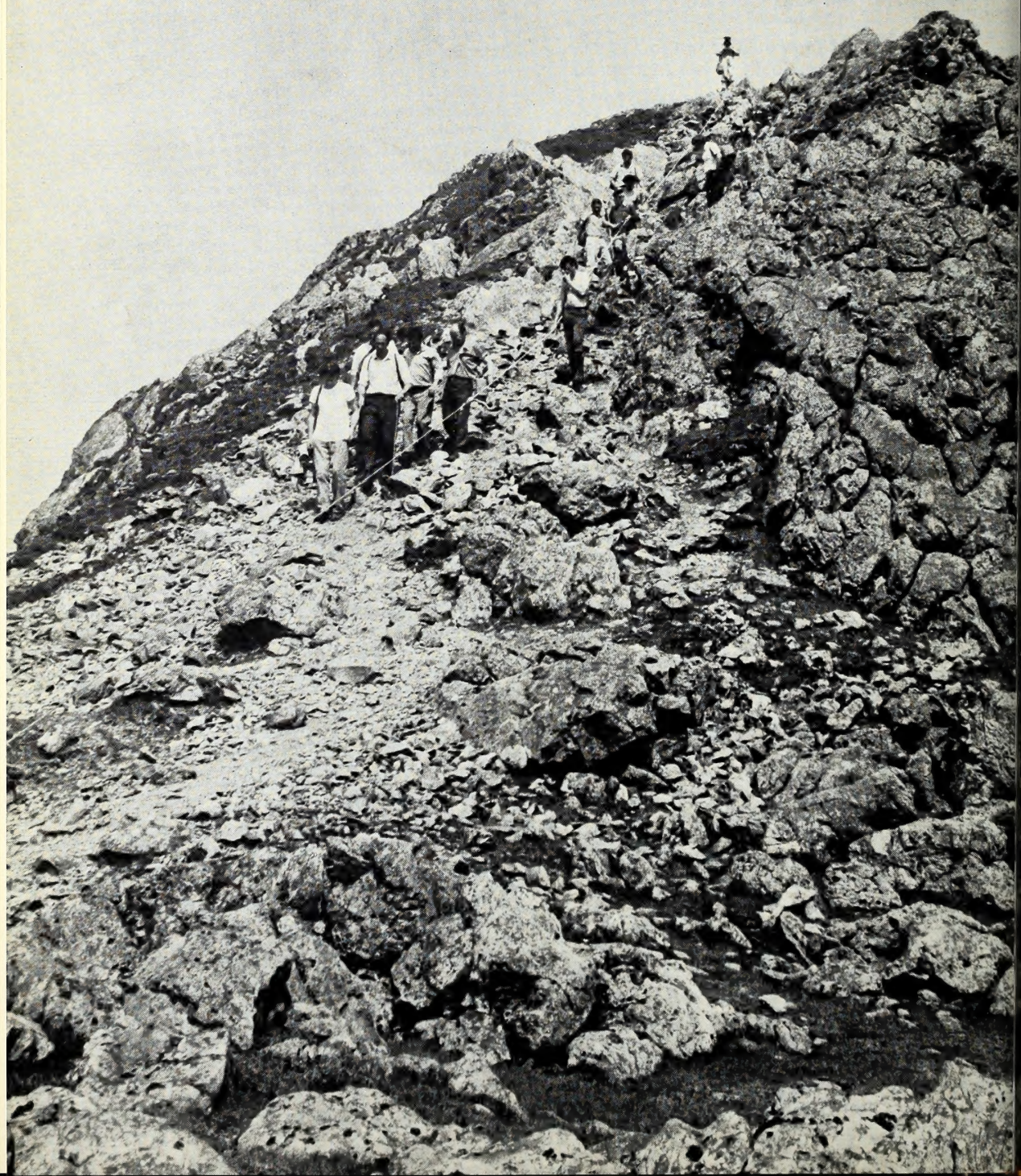
## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

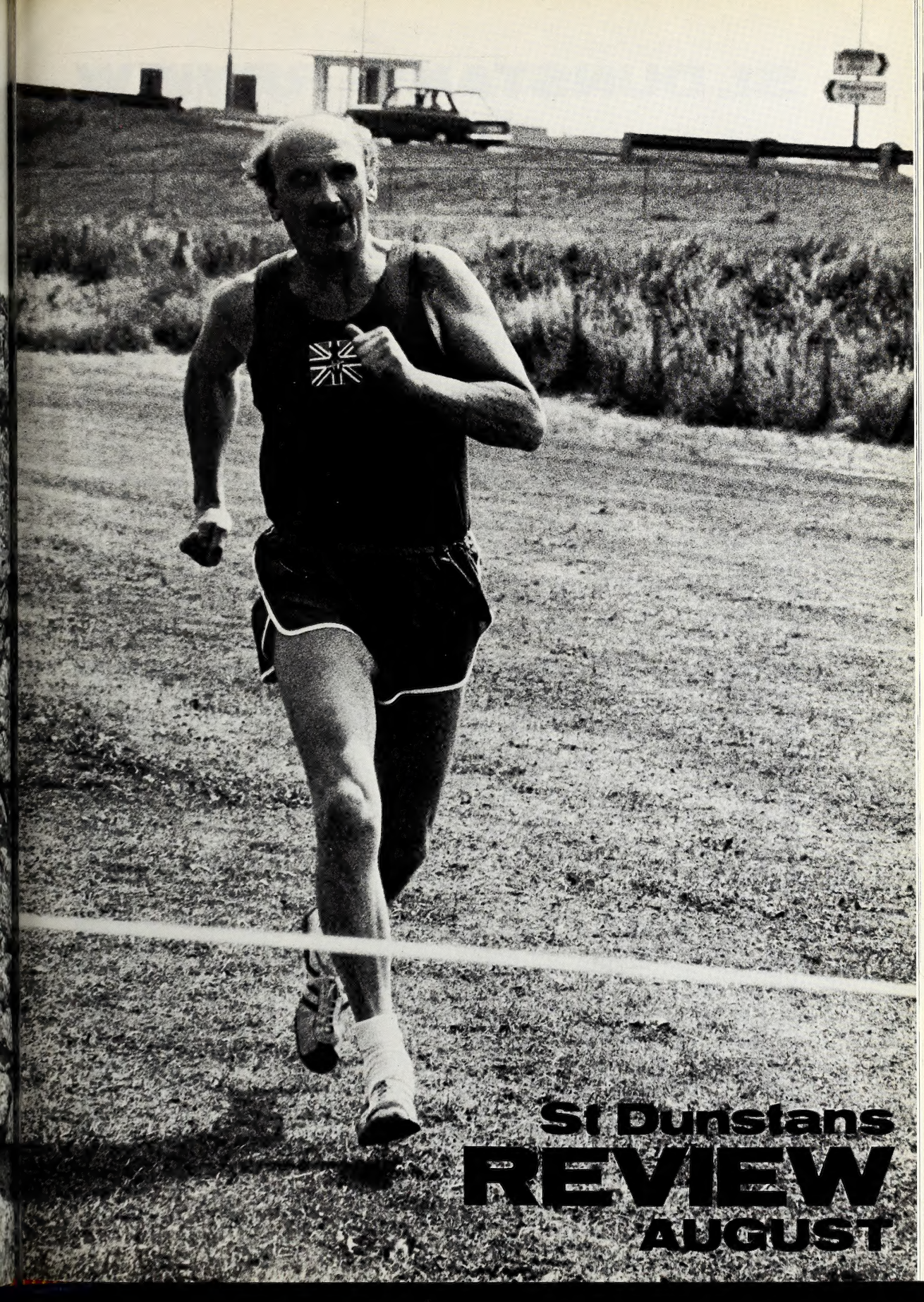
### **Joe Buckle. Norfolk Regiment**

Joe Buckle of South Wootton, King's Lynn, Norfolk, died in St. James's Hospital, King's Lynn, Norfolk on 31st May, 1975. He was 81 years of age.









St Dunstons  
**REVIEW**  
AUGUST



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 666

AUGUST 1975

5p MONTHLY

## DE-RATING OF GARAGES AND WORKSHOPS

It is just possible that there may be one or two St. Dunstaners who still do not enjoy the benefit of de-rating in respect of garages which house their own cars or in respect of workshops where goods are made for St. Dunstan's Stores.

Should any St. Dunstaner consider that he might be eligible for this rating relief under Section 45 of the General Rates Act 1967, all he need do is to get in touch with his local Estate Department Surveyor, who will then take the matter up on his behalf with the Valuation Department, Inland Revenue.

*PETER MATTHEWS*  
*Estate Manager*

## IAN FRASER HOUSE STAFF

### Assistant Matron and Senior Lounge Sister

Miss Jean Allison has been appointed to the above position. Second War St. Dunstaners will remember her from training days, when she was a V.A.D. from 1946-1949. She rejoined the Ovingdean Staff as Assistant Lounge Sister in 1969 and continued in this capacity at Ovingdean and at Pearson House when Ian Fraser House was closed, until its re-opening this year.

### Entertainment and Escort Officer

Mrs. Dorothy Williams has been appointed to this position. She first came on to the V.A.D. staff at Ovingdean in 1969 until 1973. Although she had no official connection with the Escort Office during that period she showed her aptitude for this work and was always prepared to help out. She returned on to the V.A.D. Staff on the 1st January, 1975, at Pearson House, to be ready to undertake the post when Ian Fraser House re-opened.

## FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

It is expected that we will again be granted an allocation of tickets for the Afternoon and Evening Presentations of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, 8th November. Any St. Dunstaner who has not previously had the opportunity of attending is invited to apply to Miss E. M. Bridger at Headquarters, not later than Friday, 26th September, for inclusion in the ballot for tickets, indicating which Presentation he would prefer to attend.

Those St. Dunstaners allocated tickets who do not live within daily travelling distance of London will be assisted with fares and accommodation for one or two nights at St. Dunstan's expense and will be invited to join the St. Dunstan's contingent attending the Cenotaph Parade in Whitehall on Sunday, 9th November.

## BRAILLE WATCHES

Men's Supplies at Headquarters have asked us to bring to the notice of readers the following two points:

- (1) There have been a number of requests in recent years for Braille watches and clocks to be supplied to sighted relatives of St. Dunstaners. We must point out that the Royal National Institute for the Blind only supplies these on the strict understanding that they are for the use of registered blind persons.
- (2) In view of the current economic situation, we should also like to take this opportunity of requesting our readers to return to Men's Supplies, at Headquarters, any modern type Braille watches which are no longer being used by St. Dunstaners.

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COVER PICTURE: *Peter Spencer approaches the finishing tape in the 75 metre sprint.*



# REUNIONS

## IPSWICH

A beautiful warm, sunny day for the Ipswich Reunion, held on Thursday, 26th June at the Copdock International Hotel. This is an ideal venue for a Reunion—pleasant surroundings, spacious rooms and no steps up or down. It was one of the smaller occasions, with a total of about 60 people present, including 25 St. Dunstaners—14 from the First and 11 from the Second World War or later, and 4 St. Dunstan's widows.

### Sir Richard's Speech

General Sir Richard Goodbody, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., was the member of St. Dunstan's Council presiding at the lunch. In his speech, saying that it was his first visit to an Ipswich Reunion, he brought the good wishes of all members of the Council and a special message from Lady Fraser, who unhappily was unable to be present. He then gave his audience an outline of his own career. The General

was commissioned in the Royal Artillery in 1923 and served as a Regular Army Officer for forty years. During the Second World War he was in the Sudan, in Egypt and in the Western Desert with the Eighth Army, and subsequently in Italy. His appointments after the War included periods in the War Office, as Commandant of the School of Artillery, GOC-in-C Northern Command and finally Adjutant-General to the Forces.

"Now, it is my pleasant duty today", said the General, "to bring to you and your wives and your escorts the best wishes of the St. Dunstan's Council for this 60th Diamond Jubilee Year. It's our Diamond Jubilee Year, but I'm afraid there are very few diamonds about; we all know the times".

Drawing attention to the special menu cover and the photographs, General Goodbody read extracts from the messages it contained. These were from Sir

*Charles Cornwell, Percy Carman, Michael Tybinski, General Goodbody, Mrs. Adkins, James Hancock and Robert Bowers toast the Diamond Jubilee at Ipswich.*

*Photo—East Anglia Daily Times*





Neville Pearson, Lady Fraser and Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme. He went on to tell his listeners which members of the staff were present, and what were their responsibilities. He gave special praise to Mrs. Adkins, the Welfare Visitor responsible for the day's arrangements.

After analysing the occupations of the St. Dunstaners present at the Reunion, and giving our total numbers at home and overseas, General Goodbody specially welcomed two St. Dunstaners attending their first Reunion: William Chapman, of Baldock, and Wilfred Parish, of Norwich.

The vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners was moved by Arthur Read, Clacton-on-Sea. He expressed everybody's appreciation to General Goodbody for coming to the Reunion, and thanked all concerned with the arrangements.

### **Singing Chef**

After lunch everyone was busy moving around talking to friends old and new, whilst the energetic chef who had cooked the meal came along with his guitar and entertained the company with a number of songs, accompanied by a pianist. Mrs. Carpenter, widow of Alfred Carpenter, also entertained with songs.

## **BIRMINGHAM**

The Birmingham Reunion was held this year at the Coventry Esso Hotel which, in fact, is in Walsgrave-on-Sowe. Whilst this may be somewhat confusing for the *Review* reporter, nobody got lost on the way and the first St. Dunstan's Reunion held in this new hotel proved to be very successful.

Thirty-nine Midland St. Dunstaners attended, five from the First World War and thirty-four from the Second World War or later. With them they brought their wives or escorts and altogether, including staff and guests, eighty-eight people sat down to lunch under the Chairmanship of Sir James Pitman, member of St. Dunstan's Council.

After an excellent meal Sir James rose to make his speech of welcome to the St. Dunstaners attending this Diamond Jubilee Reunion. He mentioned the varying types of work and hobbies engaged in by the members of his audience and

quoted the number of St. Dunstaners in this country and overseas.

"I would particularly like to welcome our St. Dunstaner who is attending his first reunion", continued Sir James, "He is Mr. Harry Walden, of Warley, and I hope he will find this reunion very, very enjoyable."

Sir James brought a message of greeting from Lady Fraser regretting that she was unable to travel to the Reunion and continued with a reference to the Service of Thanksgiving for Lord Fraser's life and work.

"I think everyone here has very warm recollections of that Service in Westminster Abbey. If ever one wanted a really impressive appearance of the size of St. Dunstan's and its impact on this particular section of the war wounded, it was to see that enormous queue of people waiting to get in to be present at that most moving ceremony. I wonder whether this might be an occasion for asking you to stand and think for a minute of Ian Fraser. He was a great colleague of mine in the House of Commons, he was one of the greatest men I have known."

After a minute of silence Sir James continued his speech referring to the souvenir menu cards and the messages from Sir Neville Pearson, Lady Fraser and our Chairman, "Now I feel your future will be assured because I think Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme is one of the brilliant financial brains in the City of London and, of course, in these days of inflation the assets of St. Dunstan's which have been contributed by people who have paid tribute to all of you are the very essence of the future of St. Dunstan's. Equally Sir Michael Ansell is a very worthy successor to Ian Fraser, like him an epitome of what you are all doing to face your handicaps. I think, under these two, we face a very good future indeed, because of their deep and sympathetic concern."

Sir James went on to thank the staff, particularly Miss Newbold, for her work in the Midlands and in organising the Reunion. He mentioned members of staff at the Reunion representing departments and concluded with a message of regret from Lady Pitman, whose health prevented her from accompanying him to the Reunion.

A senior St. Dunstaner, Frank Rhodes,





*Sir James Pitman, centre, with Harry Walden and Frank Rhodes at Birmingham.*

of Sutton Coldfield, spoke in reply and to propose the toast.

Frank expressed St. Dunstaners' appreciation of the staff, particularly the welfare visitors and, referring to Lord Fraser, said, "We must all realise that his entire life, with that of his wife, was devoted to the welfare of mankind, especially for ex-servicemen and, in particular, St. Dunstaners."

"Of course, before him we did have Sir Arthur Pearson. There are not many of us left who will remember him but in his day everyone who came to St. Dunstan's—either we went to St. Mark's or St. Dunstan's and Miss Mace, now Lady Fraser, came to see us.

"I remember when I went before the board of St. Mark's they said 'Mark him St. Dunstan's.' I said to my escort, 'What's St. Dunstan's?' He said, 'A damned fine Home'. We have been taught to live a more or less normal life, to mix with people and for that we are grateful. St. Dunstaners, I ask you to rise, the toast is St. Dunstan's."

The afternoon continued with dancing to Teddy Valentine's Trio. Birthday greetings were sung to Rae, wife of James Brown of Nuneaton, and after the usual prize draw the Reunion concluded with tea.

**Editor's Note:** *As we go to press we learn with sorrow of the death of Frank Rhodes on July 12th. A tribute will appear in the October issue of the Review.*

*Mrs. Elizabeth Tomporowski jokes with Eddie and Marjorie Hordyniec over her raffle prize, a bottle of Scotch. Lorrie Rea is also in the picture.*





# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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We are known as a nation whose main topic of conversation is The Weather. So, running true to form, I report that conditions at the beginning of June were Siberian, but within a week anoraks and sweaters were abandoned with gladsome cries, as we sunned ourselves on the Costa del Brighton.

Our first outing of the month was to Epsom for Derby Day. Although the weather was chilly, the traditional lunch of chicken, followed by strawberries and cream, did much to compensate. Our thanks and appreciation are due in full measure to Mr. Feldwick, Mr. Billy Rundle, Mr. Tom Eales, and all the catering staff, who go to so much trouble for our comfort.

## Theatre Comments

The Theatre Royal offered a wide-ranging choice of plays this month. The first was "Ardele" by Jean Anouilh, and though the stars, Coral Browne and Charles Gray, acted so well and had such perfect diction, the audience seemed baffled. It was not a relaxing evening! "Not in the Book" starring Wilfred Hyde White was far less complicated! But the general favourite was a production by the Brighton and Hove Operatic Society of "The Merry Widow"—gay, colourful and tuneful.

A Company new to us, The Nucleus Theatre Group, entertained us one Sunday evening with a performance of "The Importance of being Earnest", which was very well received. They hope to visit us again in a few weeks' time to perform "Gaslight"; we anticipate an evening of chills and suspense, with coffee and biscuits to sustain and warm us.

Speaking of food, some of us seem to have an insatiable appetite for cream teas, and these were happily consumed around Sussex, at "Smugglers Farm", "Wyndham Farmhouse" and the oddly-named "Merry Tadpole", which our irreverent switchboard operator refers to as "The Happy Minnow". Life gets a little confusing! Incidentally we all send our good wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery to the aforesaid operator, Dickie Richardson. Come back soon, all is forgiven!

It was a great pleasure to welcome all the hearty outdoor types to the Sports Weekend, never have we seen such a display of manly knees around the House. The swimming pool was in great demand, and obviously was the source of much enjoyment. The competition for the highest number of metal plates collected from the bottom of the pool was greeted by admiring applause—and with relief from one member of the staff. He was agitatedly hopping from one foot to the other, consulting his watch and muttering "Wish they'd hurry up—I need those plates by 12 o'clock". The drama of it all left him quite unmoved!

The holiday makers with less energy to burn up quietly continued to enjoy their Bingo, Dominoes and Bridge, and in their own way had just as much fun.

We made two visits to Brighton Racecourse; no fortunes were made or lost, but the weather was lovely and they do a very nice line in whipped ice-cream from a small van. But keep that information confidential—the queues are already too long for comfort.

## Concert Crisis

The last two Sunday concerts of the month were entirely different, both in content and in presentation. The first one was given by Mr. Tom Eales, who never fails to delight us with his choice of music. He takes enormous trouble to arrange his programme and to tape it so that it is heard to the best effect. The last concert of the month was given by the Saltdean Women's Institute Choir, conducted by Mr. G. Watson. From the comments passed after the performance, the writer gathered that it was a great success—alas! at the time she was engaged in attempting to break and enter a refrigerator, and only caught the fading notes of "God Save the Queen". To elucidate—wafer ices for sixty people had been ordered, but somewhere along the line, misunderstandings arose, and the catering staff locked up and departed, leaving coffee and biscuits for twenty people. As there were twenty five performers alone, it was quite a problem. With the clock ticking inexorably on, and panic steadily mounting, solutions were



thought about, found wanting, and discarded. (The best one was jumping off Beachy Head.) At last—success! Sixty ice-creams were available! But where were the wafers? A packet was found, containing 72. The sums just wouldn't come right—Pythagoras himself couldn't make sixty wafer ices with seventy-two wafers. So we made thirty wafer ices and served the rest in dishes. The relief was enormous, and so was the amount of washing-up.

And so, until next month, we leave you with this thought—life at Ian Fraser House has its traumatic moments, but it sure isn't dull!

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## COMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 3rd, 7 p.m. The Nucleus Theatre Group present "Gaslight".

Sunday, August 10th, 7.30 p.m. Play-reading by visitors and staff.

Sunday, August 17th, 7.30 p.m. The Arena Choir.

Sunday, August, 31st, 7.30 p.m. Mr. Tom Eales presents a Stereo Programme.

The concert given by the "Not Forgotten" Association will be on September 21st. We shall be happy to welcome local St. Dunstaners, their wives and escorts, to these Concerts, and also to the regular Monday Evening Dances, including the Bank Holiday Dance on August 25th.

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## St. Dunstan's Fishing Club



St. Dunstaners interested in angling will be pleased to know that Mrs. Garnett-Orme has graciously accepted to be Hon. President of the St. Dunstan's Angling Club.

On Friday evening, 27th June, our Annual General Meeting was held in the Annexe of Ian Fraser House. John Whitcombe of Eastbourne was re-elected Chairman whilst the remainder of the committee is as follows:

W. Claydon, Vice-Chairman

W. Lethbridge

W. Phillips

J. Morris

R. Fullard

Mr. J. Carnochan continues to act as our Hon. Secretary and Mrs. W. Claydon has kindly agreed to continue as Hon. Treasurer.

Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th June, saw St. Dunstan's sea anglers again out in force from Newhaven but unfortunately although lots of mackerel were in evidence, we were restricted by winds (rather too strong) from going far enough out to be able to make a memorable catch. Many dabs were taken and the sun shone fair on both days. The club prize for the heaviest fish caught over the week-end went to Arthur Carter for his 2½ lb. bream caught on the Penhall, skipped by Guy Rushbrook.

It is, however, emphasised that St. Dunstaners who are coarse fishermen are entitled to compete for club trophies, details of which may be obtained from Jock Carnochan.

This end-June week-end also saw another Angling Club activity, namely, our annual social which was very well attended. Mr. Richard Hall, managing director of the Red Ball Catering Co., accompanied by Mrs. Hall, kindly presented our club trophies. Music was provided by Mr. W. Claydon who played his electric organ. A total of some 60 people, including guests, enjoyed the dancing and refreshments. Our club committee is to be congratulated on the arrangements made for this so successful function held in the Annexe of Ian Fraser House.

BOB FULLARD

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## Life-boat Naming Ceremony

Samuel Charles Loram of Brixham, South Devon, who is nearly 80 years of age, was invited in his capacity of Royal British Legion Standard Bearer to the Naming Ceremony of a Royal National Life-boat Institution craft on 17th June, 1975. The Life-boat was named "Edward Bridges" by H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, who was accompanied by the Duchess. Samuel attended a similar ceremony in 1934, when the launching was performed by the Prince of Wales.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Arthur Burrows** of Pontefract, Yorkshire, joined St. Dunstan's in June, 1975. He served with the R.A.S.C. in the First World War. Before moving with his wife to Pontefract he lived for many years in Colwyn Bay, where he had a successful tailoring business. He has four married children.

**George William Hudson**, Bingley, Yorkshire, joined St. Dunstan's in July, 1975. He served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. He and his wife have one child.

**Arthur James** of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, joined St. Dunstan's in June 1975. He was wounded in France in 1917 while serving as a Gunner in the R.F.A. Until his retirement at the age of 67 he worked as a Foreman Landscape Gardener with the local Council. He and his wife have five adult children.

**Reginald Kearns** of Bristol, Somerset, joined St. Dunstan's in June 1975. He served as a Sergeant with the Royal Tank Regiment until his discharge in 1940. He is married with three sons and one daughter.

**Robert Redfern** of Hornsea, North Humberside, joined St. Dunstan's in June, 1975. He served in the First World War, being commissioned in the R.A.F. in its early days, and was severely injured. He is married with a grown-up family and grand-children.

**Francis Hamilton Ward** of London S.E.27, joined St. Dunstan's in June, 1975. He served in the First World War as a Private in the R.A.M.C.; he was injured in France in 1915, and discharged the following year. He was a salesman until failing sight, aggravated by war service, and deterioration in his hearing forced him to retire. He and his wife have a grown-up son and daughter.

## Far East Visit

by Mike Tetley

I work at a hospital where we are running a pilot study on cranial manipulation to help subnormal children. All these children have mis-shapen heads and it struck me that if their heads could be remoulded soon after birth then maybe the restoration of symmetry to the skull by moulding could reduce subnormality.

I heard that skull moulding was carried on in Ceylon so with my wife and a lecturer in mechanical engineering who measures the skulls for me, I went on a trip to the Far East covering 21,000 miles in 21 days. Mr. Garnett-Orme obtained introductions for us to the High Commissioners and Embassy staff in Ceylon, Singapore, Bali, Hong Kong and Bangkok.

We found and filmed skull moulding in Ceylon. The mothers all meet by the wells on the road to Kandi and after bathing the babies, mould their heads so that they look nice and symmetrical.

The bones of the skull in the first months of life are still soft and can be moulded. Incidentally, sub-normality seems to be much less than in the U.K. but direct comparisons cannot be made due to the high rate of infant mortality.

In Bali when we went to the hospital in Denpasar the Balinese doctors did not know what we were talking about but the fellow who looked after my room in the hotel knew and took us to the villages to see skull moulding. The Doctors were most surprised when we took them.

In Bali when a child is born they bury the placenta on one side of the front door if it is a boy and on the other if a girl. A candle is lighted to burn for 12 days and skull moulding lasts from the 12th to the 42nd day.

By the way in Bali they have 12 months to the year, four of 35 days and 8 of 28 days and a separate New Year's day. Monday is thus always on the same days of the month.

I wanted to examine monks and nuns who practise meditation whilst sitting in the lotus position. When a Buddhist sits





*Mr. Garnett-Orme makes the presentation to Bill Webster.*

## STAFF RETIREMENT

### **Mr. William Webster—Brighton Staff**

Once again, a very long serving member of the Brighton Homes Staff has retired. Bill Webster (or "Webbie" as he was known to very many of our St. Dunstaners) retired on 30th April 1975 and on the 9th May was presented with a gold

watch as a retirement gift from the Council of St. Dunstan's by Mr. Garnett-Orme, our Chairman.

"Webbie" joined St. Dunstan's, West House (as it was then called) and later moved to Ovingdean in 1938 when that building was opened. He completed his War service in 1945, having joined the Royal Artillery in August 1939. He came out with the rank of Sergeant and was mentioned in Dispatches. From 1950 he was Assistant House Steward at Pearson House and later House Steward at Northgate House during Pearson House closure. It was, in fact, at Northgate that he completed 36 years' service with St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Webster will be remembered particularly by our deaf-blind St. Dunstaners because of his constant attendance and help to them, particularly during their Reunions.

We all wish him a very happy retirement.

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### **Far East Visit—continued**

cross-legged he does so with his right leg ahead of his left. After a long period this causes a permanent twist to the spine so that when they stand up they all stand with their right hip sticking out a little and tend to have stiff necks. Buddha was reputed not only to have a bad back but such a stiff neck that when he turned round he had to turn his shoulders. I was tactless enough to tell them, that "he deserved to if he sat in such an absurd position".

I gave a talk to the blind in Hong Kong on sporting activities and recreation.



# Ovingdean Sports resumed







*Peter Walker, competing for the first time in his first few weeks at Ian Fraser House, is seen throwing the discus, left and finishing the 75 metre sprint, above.*

**St. Dunstan's Sports made a triumphant return to Ian Fraser House over the weekend of June 21st/22nd. For the first event at the new Ian Fraser House our Sports Officer, John Carnochan, arranged some other "firsts" in the programme.**

In blazing sunshine, which only the influence wielded by Commandant Fawcett could have arranged, the first St. Dunstan's racewalk through Ovingdean village opened the programme. A dozen racewalkers, escorted mainly by our friends of the Fleet Air Arm Field Gun Crew, competed over a hilly course which proved to be three very testing miles in the heat. First man home was that experienced walker, John Simpson, who returned a time of 28 minutes 16 seconds. He was followed by Norman Perry in 29 minutes 10 seconds. Both these walkers were competing in the totally blind section, they were followed by Jerry Lynch and Fred Barratt from the partially-sighted section with only two seconds between them at 30 minutes 1

second and 30 minutes 3 seconds respectively. A sight to treasure was that of Trevor Tatchell and his escort finishing with a police car following with headlights blazing.

Ian Fraser House was still bathed in sunshine when the field sports began in the afternoon, watched by our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and Mrs. Garnett-Orme. It was quite like old times, with the marquees on the field and the band of Newhaven Squadron Air Training Corps to entertain during the tea interval.

As in former years, the field sports competitors were organised in groups which moved from one event to another. Group winners and runners-up are listed in the results but mention must be made of Tony Parkinson, joint winner of Group B, Peter Walker, winner of Group C and Ray Peart, runner-up in Group A—all of whom were competing for the first time.

An innovation this year was the 75 metre walk as an alternative to the sprint over the same distance and it was





*Norman Perry, guided by John Alvey, leads a line of walkers and escorts down Beacon Hill, Ovingdean.*

*Putting a lot of effort into the shot is Charles Stafford.*



interesting to note that the fastest walker, John Simpson again, in 18 seconds, was just over six seconds slower than the fastest sprinter, Peter Walker, who clocked 11.9 seconds, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as fast.

Best performances in the other events were:

Shot: Fred Barratt, 7.89 metres; Discus: John Simpson, 74 feet 6 ins; Javelin: Jerry Lynch, 89 feet 2 ins.; Slingball: Peter Spencer, 70 feet 10 ins.; Medicine Ball: Bill Shea, 22 feet 1 in.; Long Jump: John Simpson, 8 feet 11 ins.

Throughout the weekend rifle shooting took place and the first tournament on the new indoor bowling rinks in the new wing. Norman Perry produced the best performance in rifle shooting scoring 47 with five rounds, while section winners in the bowls tournament were: Tony Parkinson and Frank Griffiee.

### **First Swimming Gala**

A highlight of the weekend was the first gala in the new swimming pool on Sunday morning. Fourteen swimmers competed in groups as in the field sports the previous afternoon. The fastest man in the new pool was Ray Peart, who clocked 31.0 seconds in the two lengths crawl. Other best performances were: Alan Wortley, 35.2 seconds in the breast stroke and 45.9 seconds in the back stroke, cheered on vociferously by his children who chanted "Come on, Daddy". Submerged in the plunge Alan presumably could not hear his fans because he lost to Jimmy Wright who beat him by gliding under water for no less than 40 feet 8 inches.

In the plate diving that inveterate collector, Fred Barratt, dredged up 18 plates to win, although Granville Waterworth surfaced without any plates and a story of an enormous number that got away.

The spring board diving event concluded a fine morning's sport and featured some brave diving by Percy Stubbs and Stewart Spence in the doubly handicapped section. Highest point scorer overall after two dives was Tony Parkinson, who scored an average of 13.66 from a possible 20 points average, awarded by three judges.

Victors Ludorum were decided by total events points scored throughout the





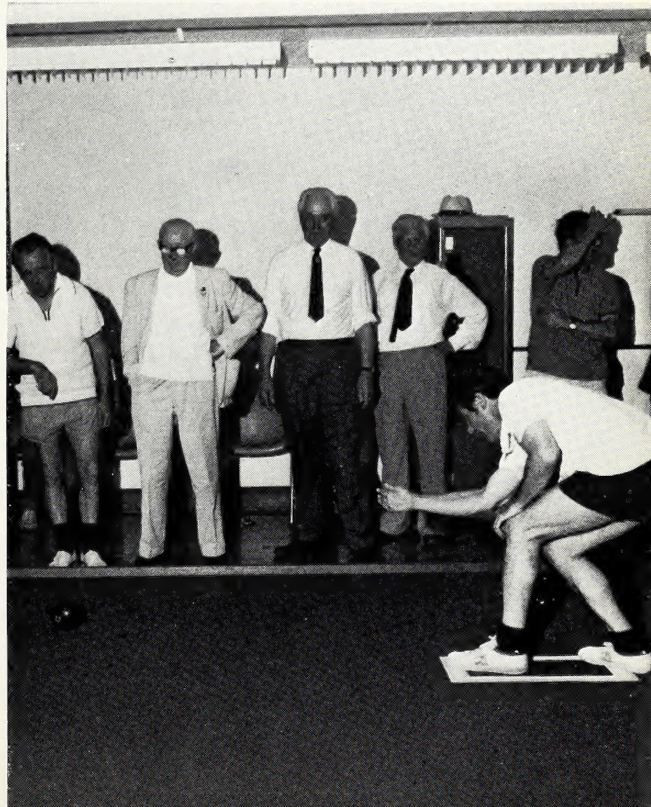
*Starting a swimming heat, l. to r., Norman Perry, Tony Parkinson, Joe Humphrey and Charles Stafford*

weekend and the section winners are given in the detailed results below. Once again an excellent sports weekend had been staged at Ovingdean reflecting great credit on all concerned in its organisation and, as John Carnochan said, "We thank all competitors for their support and congratulate them on their performances."

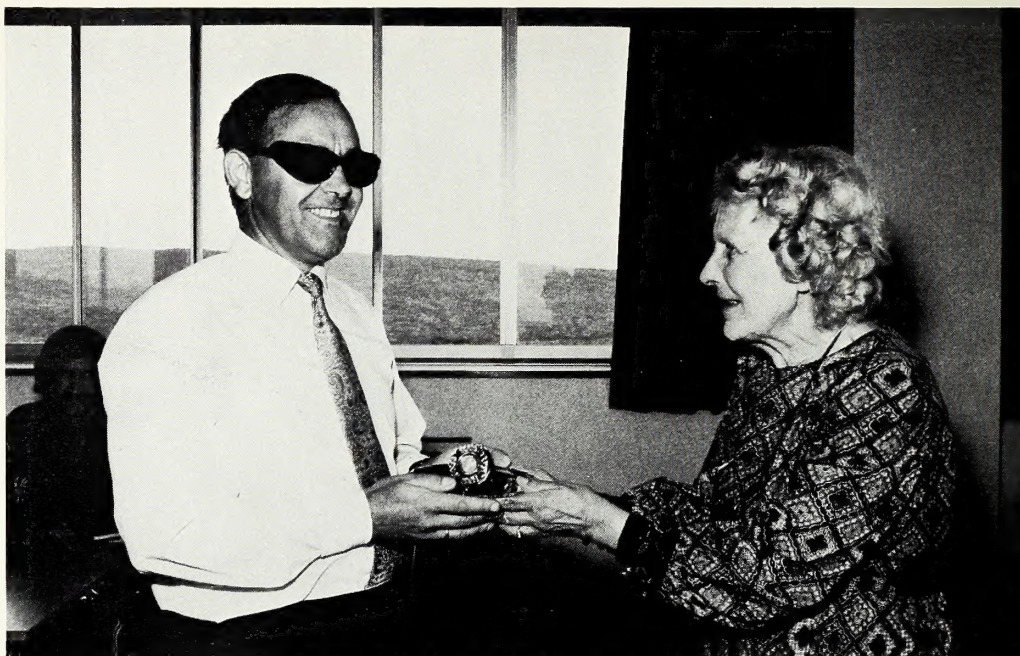
### 3 MILE WALK SCRATCH START

Name	Time	Final Place
Totally Blind	mins./secs.	
N. Perry	29.10	2nd
S. Tutton	31.09	5th
C. Stafford	30.29	4th
R. Young	30.19	3rd
J. Wright	31.07	6th
<b>J. Simpson</b>	<b>28.16</b>	<b>1st</b>
Partially sighted		
P. Cryan	30.51	4th
F. Barratt	30.03	2nd
T. Tatchell	34.27	6th
<b>J. Lynch</b>	<b>30.01</b>	<b>1st</b>
P. Walker	31.53	5th
A. Wortley	30.40	3rd

*Alan Wortley bowling in the new indoor rink.*







Mrs. Avis Spurway presents a trophy to Tony Parkinson, a Victor Ludorum and Best Beginner.

## Sports Results in Detail

### VICTORS LUDORUM

T.B. winner	<b>T. Parkinson</b>	69 points	D.H. winner	<b>R. Young</b>	43 points
P.S. winner	<b>F. Barratt</b>	66 points	Best Beginner	<b>T. Parkinson</b>	69 points

### GROUP WINNERS

<b>3 Milk Walk</b>	<i>T.B.</i>	Winner	<b>J. Simpson</b>	Runner-up	N. Perry
	<i>P.S.</i>	"	<b>J. Lynch</b>	"	F. Barratt
<b>Shooting</b>	<i>T.B.</i>	"	<b>N. Perry</b>	"	P. Stubbs
	<i>P.S.</i>	"	<b>J. Lynch</b>	"	{ H. Cope P. Walker
<b>Bowls</b>	<i>T.B.</i>	"	<b>T. Parkinson</b>	"	N. Perry
	<i>P.S.</i>	"	<b>F. Griffee</b>	"	F. Barratt

### FIELD EVENTS

Group A	T.B.	Winner	<b>J. Simpson</b>	30 points	Runner-up	R. Peart	26 points
Group B	T.B.	"	{ <b>T. Parkinson</b> <b>P. Spencer</b>	30 "	"	J. Humphrey	21 "
Group C	P.S.	"	<b>P. Walker</b>	30 "	"	H. Cope	24 "
Group D	P.S.	"	<b>J. Lynch</b>	30 "	"	R. Dixon	28 "
Group E	D.H.	"	<b>R. Young</b>	32 "			

### SWIMMING

Group A	T.B.	Winner	<b>R. Peart</b>	26 points	Runner-up	G. Waterworth	25 points
Group B	T.B.	"	<b>T. Parkinson</b>	28 "	"	J. Humphrey	27 "
Group C	P.S.	"	<b>A. Wortley</b>	30 "	"	F. Barratt	29 "
Group D	D.H.	"	<b>P. Stubbs</b>	30 "	"	S. Spence	14 "



## FIELD SPORTS RESULTS

Name	75m Sprint secs.	75m Walk secs.	Shot metres	Discus ft./ins.	Javelin ft./ins.	Sling Ball ft./ins.	Medicine Ball ft./ins.	Long Jump ft./ins.	Event Points	Total Points	Final Place
<b>Group A. T.B.</b>											
G. Waterworth	16.1		5.55	42' 0"			21' 1"		4	21	5th
N. Perry	14.8		6.25		50' 5"			6' 9"	4	24	3rd
C. Stafford		20.0	6.55	48' 3"	43' 1"				4	22	4th
S. Tutton	17.0		5.90	46' 10"				5' 7½"	4	17	6th
J. Simpson		18.0		74' 6"	66' 0"			8' 11"	4	30	1st
R. Peart	15.8			56' 5"	78' 5"			8' 2"	4	26	2nd
<b>Group B. T.B.</b>											
P. Spencer	14.1		7.01	64' 0"		70' 10"			4	30	1st
J. Wright	15.5		5.74	46' 5"		60' 4"			4	19	4th
W. Shea			6.77	50' 6"			22' 1"		3	19	4th
J. Humphrey	15.2			48' 0"	53' 4"	58' 9"			4	21	3rd
J. Parkinson		28.0			79' 10"		20' 4"	7' 11"	4	30	1st
J. Wheeler			8.42		54' 4"	41' 10"			3	18	6th
<b>Group C. P.S.</b>											
H. Cope	14.1			59' 0"		61' 0"		6' 9½"	4	24	2nd
A. Wortley	12.0		6.81	58' 4"			20' 2½"		4	22	3rd
F. Barratt	12.2		7.89	57' 0"				7' 7½"	4	21	4th
P. Walker	11.9		7.70	73' 0"			21' 9"		4	30	1st
<b>Group D. P.S.</b>											
P. Cryan	16.0		5.64				15' 10"	5' 9"	4	22	4th
J. Lynch	14.1			52' 1"	89' 2"	58' 8"			4	30	1st
T. Tatchell			7.58	59' 9"				7' 6"	3	25	3rd
R. Dixon	14.1		6.55			58' 1"	19' 11"		4	28	2nd
<b>Group E. D.H.</b>											
R. Young		28.5			37' 4"	36' 0"	11' 7"		4	32	1st

## SWIMMING AND DIVING RESULTS

Name	2 L Breast secs.	2 L Crawl secs.	2 L Back S. secs.	Distance Plunge ft./ins.	Plate Diving	Spring Board 1 metre points	Event Points	Total Points	Final Place
<b>Group A. T.B.</b>									
G. Waterworth	44.1	45.3			0	12.66	4	25	2nd
J. Simpson	58.2	59.8		36.1		11.32	4	18	5th
R. Peart	37.5	31.0		38.3		12.66	4	26	1st
P. Spencer	41.8		55.9	39.0		9.32	4	24	3rd
N. Perry	42.4		51.3		2	7.99	4	24	3rd
<b>Group B. T.B.</b>									
T. Parkinson	44.2	38.0		28.1		13.66	4	28	1st
C. Stafford	48.0	47.1			7	10.33	4	23	3rd
J. Wright		51.3		40.8		11.99	3	19	4th
J. Humphrey	42.0		57.5		6	11.66	4	27	2nd
<b>Group C. P.S.</b>									
F. Barratt	63.9	38.4			18	9.33	4	29	2nd
A. Wortley	35.2		45.9	36.8		8.99	4	30	1st
H. Cope	41.2	41.0			13	8.99	4	24	3rd
<b>Group D. D.H.</b>									
P. Stubbs	68.0		62.0	33.4		10.00	4	30	1st
S. Spence			61.0			9.99	2	14	2nd



# **WARMINSTER CAMP 1975**

by Ted Frearson

On Thursday, 3rd July, a party of nineteen St. Dunstaners from various parts of the country arrived in Warminster to spend five days with friends of the Rotary Club and the School of Infantry.

After refreshments at the Assembly Hall, provided by the ladies of the Inner Wheel, cars transported the men up to the School of Infantry to their billets.

In the evening we were entertained to a dinner given by the Warminster Royal British Legion, followed by drinks and a social evening. We were given a warm welcome by the President of the Club.

On Friday there was a free morning followed by a Rotary Lunch, and in the afternoon we were transported to Hinton Charterhouse as the guests of Mr. Robertson-Glasgow. After tea we were entertained by girls from Frome School who sang to us. This was followed by a trip to the "Rose and Crown" in the village, where a very pleasant evening was had by all. The men were returned to the School of Infantry by the Rotarians.

On Saturday morning we were away with packed lunches to Bath Races—some lucky, some unlucky!—followed by tea on the Course, returning to the School of Infantry for a wash and brush-up. In the evening we were entertained by the President and Committee of the Senior N.C.O.'s Mess. During the course of the evening we had the pleasure of the company of Commander R. Buckley from St. Dunstan's Headquarters and Mrs. Buckley. A very good evening was enjoyed. Supper was served about midnight, after which the men returned to their billets.

On Sunday we were taken by Army 'bus to Upton Scudamore for a Service which included the baptism of two small children who had returned to Warminster from New Zealand and Scotland. Lunch and tea was provided by individual Rotary friends, and there was an evening party together at the Assembly Hall. The entertainment was provided by the Round Table who gave a concert.

On Monday, after a free morning, there

was a goodbye mid-day lunch with Rotary friends, as guests of the ladies of the Inner Wheel.

After warm thanks to all the kind friends who gave us so many happy days, the St. Dunstaners, much refreshed, left for their homes.

## **Editor's Note**

The Camp for St. Dunstaners in Wiltshire (either Westbury or Warminster) was first established some thirty-seven years ago. Its origin is linked with the name of Miss Oliphant. During the past ten years the Camp has been organised by members of the Rotary Club of Warminster, with accommodation provided at the School of Infantry. Invitations are extended to individual St. Dunstaners by the Rotary Club. Besides the Rotary Club members, and their ladies, St. Dunstan's is grateful to the Commandant, Senior N.C.O.s and other ranks of the School of Infantry and numerous other organisations and friends in the district, including members of the Royal British Legion and Mr. Robertson-Glasgow.

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## **STAFF OBITUARY**

### **Mr. Jeffries O'Connell**

We are sorry to learn of the death of Mr. O'Connell in St. Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, Paddington, in June 1975, at the age of 71. For almost ten years, until his retirement in December 1968, he was Head Hall Porter at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, in charge of transport and escort arrangements. He will be remembered affectionately by the staff and by the numerous visitors, St. Dunstaners and others, for whose welfare he was concerned.

Nicknamed "Con" or "Jerry", Mr. O'Connell served with the Middlesex Regiment in the Army of Occupation in 1918, and in the Second World War was a member of the "Light Rescue Section" of the Civil Defence (Fulham Baths). Before working at St. Dunstan's he was employed by London Transport at Parsons Green, and by British Rail, Southern Region.

Mr. O'Connell leaves a widow, Mrs. Marion O'Connell, a son David, a daughter Margaret and five grand-daughters.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1553*

**Dr. Zhivago**

by Boris Pasternak

Translated by

Max Hayward and Manya Harari

*Read by Garard Green*

*Reading Time 26½ hours*

This is an epic novel in the traditional Russian mould, lengthy, finely-detailed and with a multiplicity of characters closely involved in one another's lives.

It is the story of the life and death of Uri Zhivago, set against the sombre background of a violently-changing social order in Russia. We see him as an orphaned child, as a struggling medical student and as a dedicated and brilliant doctor.

Although supporting the principle of the Revolution, he is appalled and sickened by its results, the mass starvation, the killings, the civil war and the lunatic destructive bureaucracy which grows out of the chaos.

His less-than-total commitment to the new regime, and his own antecedents (his family had once been very wealthy) make him suspect. Life is made more complicated by personal conflict between his consuming passion for Lara and his deep sense of duty towards his wife and children, from whom he is separated.

After a turbulent semi-nomadic life together, he and Lara part, finally and irrevocably. He is alone, unable to work and in failing health. The decay and degradation of the former distinguished doctor and writer is rapid and inevitable. Even the manner of his death is ignominious.

This book was smuggled out of the USSR, awarded the Nobel Prize and (the ultimate accolade, perhaps) made into a film.

I enjoyed *most* of it. As with many Russian books, however, there remains the almost insurmountable problem of identifying characters, since each one has three, sometimes four names, which are freely interchangeable. Thus Lara, Larrissa Feodorovna, and Antipova all refer to one and the same person!

At the beginning of the book the translators have provided a "cast-list" to help readers, but obviously you can't turn back a Talking Book to refer to it.

However, in spite of these difficulties, and in spite of innumerable wildly-improbable coincidences in the plot (which I suspect would never be tolerated from any writer of lesser stature than Pasternak) it is still a first-class book and well worth taking a little trouble over.

*Cat. No. 1146*

**Travels With My Aunt**

by Graham Greene

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading Time 10¾ hours*

Henry Pulling, in his fifties, is a retired bank manager. A staid and ultra-respectable bachelor, his one great passion is the cultivation of his beloved dahlias.

At his mother's funeral he meets for the first time his aunt Augusta, who, although in her seventies, proves neither staid nor respectable. She has a fine zest for life and an insatiable appetite for travel. She persuades him to accompany her to Istanbul.

She cheerfully flouts all the currency regulations and upon reaching their destination, the horrified Henry discovers that their errand is not merely questionable but downright illegal.

This is only the beginning of his adventures with his aunt. Gradually, through her, he discovers a new self, long hidden beneath his stick-in-the-mud bank manager image.

This is a delightfully funny book, full of outrageous Runyanesque characters, doing outrageous things. And a pat on the back for Mr. de Morgan, who does a splendid job of reading.

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## NO SEPTEMBER REVIEW

As in previous years, we shall **NOT** be printing a September issue of the *Review*. St. Dunstaners should receive their copies of the October issue early in the month.



# ARNHEM REVISITED

by Ray Sheriff

The visit to Apeldoorn was organised by Mrs. Freda Linschoten with the co-operation of the people of Apeldoorn and surrounding areas. Freda is herself, handicapped, unfortunately, this compels her to wear a surgical boot. However, she is a great character, very patriotic, and very, very, pro-British. During the years of German occupation Freda, though only in her teens, played quite a part in her local resistance group.

## We set sail

So, at 10 p.m. on Thursday, 1st May, the party of battle-scarred warriors wobbled up the gangplank to their cabins on the S.S. *Juliana*. In the case of the majority of the party it was their first re-visit since September, 1944.

We were met at the Hook of Holland by our Dutch hosts and following a quick continental breakfast we boarded the coach for our journey to Apeldoorn.

Accommodation for our stay in the Netherlands proved to be within a 12 storey block of luxury flats, at a high point on the outskirts of Apeldoorn.

Our room was lush and spacious, massed with highly scented flowers. On a side table was arranged a large bowl of fresh fruits, nuts and raisins, cheeses and biscuits, chocolates and a variety of soft drinks. To add to this most thoughtful welcome a dozen Dutch view cards, with stamps affixed, ready to post to the Motherland.

After a couple of hours' rest, we were transported to the Town hall where we were welcomed by the Burgomaster, and people of the area who had kindly subscribed to the project. After being entertained by the local Brass band we had a super meal in a local restaurant, wine flowing freely, more lovely words from the Dutch. . . .

On Saturday, 3rd May, we visited a large Dutch army barracks in Apeldoorn. Following the evacuation of Arnhem, prisoners were herded here for sorting. The wounded moved to local hospitals and the remainder dispatched to Germany. It was nice to re-visit under such different circumstances.

Following the sequence of my own movements in September 1944 the next stop was the "Queen Juliana Hospital" Apeldoorn. We were the guests of the Doctors and Nurses for coffee and lunch.

Our next port of call was the R.N.A.F. Helicopter station in the district of Deelon. The speech of welcome by the C.O. of the station proved to be in similar vein to speeches already experienced during our stay.

We were perpetually being thanked and praised as liberators of the Netherlands. We were treated and made to feel that the liberation was just a day or two ago, instead of 30 years in the past.

Another enjoyable but embarrassing aspect of our tour proved the presentation of gifts at every meeting.

## On to Oosterbeek

After farewells from the R.N.A.F. station, we made our way to the district of Oosterbeek. Very fierce fighting took place in Oosterbeek during the battle. Most members of our party had mislaid some part of their anatomy around this area. I personally, was wounded on the approach to this area.

We retraced our steps to the "Old Kirk", the little Church which gave refuge to so many wounded. Then on to the resting place of so many, the Airborne Cemetery. Homage and respects were paid by the laying of a wreath on behalf of the British Parachute Association.

Sunday 4th May was the official Day of Remembrance of the Dutch Resistance Movement. That evening at 7.30 p.m. we were transported to Orange Park, Apeldoorn. Here we participated in the memorial service and wreath laying to the Dutch Resistance Movement. This in my opinion, was the most moving and unforgettable ceremony I have ever been honoured to attend.

How does one describe an eerie silence broken only by the slow shuffle of a thousand Dutch feet, wending their way to their Memorial? The solitary toll of a Church bell in the distance and near by the muffled beat of a drum. The atmosphere conjured in my mind a group of



bedraggled human beings entering the compound of a German concentration camp. Perhaps the intention was symbolic or just my imagination?

### Wreath of Poppies

I felt honoured and very proud at being invited on behalf of the British Parachute Association to lay a wreath of poppies on the Memorial. Paradoxically, I felt very humble and inadequate, in contemplation of the great sufferings, indignities and humiliations experienced by the Dutch people as a whole and the Resisters in particular throughout the long years of occupation.

### Official Visit

On Monday, 5th May we paid an official visit to the district of Wageningen, to witness the opening by H.R.H. Prince Bernard of the Netherlands, of the new house of Capitulation. Wageningen is about 12 miles west of Arnhem and within its area was the last German Command post before capitulation. This was naturally a very cheerful occasion, lots of flags and bunting, band displays and other numerous colourful activities.

I did not have the pleasure of meeting the Prince for a second time, perhaps he could not find me amongst the great multitudes?

During the late afternoon we travelled east to Arnhem Municipal Buildings for a reception and dinner as guests of the Queen's Commissioner. A jolly good time was enjoyed by all. We returned to base with yet more tokens of goodwill.

On Tuesday, 6th May, after paying our respects and farewells we came to the end of a most perfect stay in the Netherlands. We were all overwhelmed by the Dutch hospitality, kindness and goodwill. Greater care and sincerity could not have been extended to our Royal Family.

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### Editor's Note

*From May 1st-6th, the people of the Netherlands celebrated the 30th anniversary of their liberation. Ray Sheriff, representing the 3rd Parachute Regiment, was one of eight disabled Arnhem veterans invited to the Netherlands to take part.*

## BRIDGE NOTES

### LONDON

The Summer Bridge Drive was held on Saturday 28th June. Unfortunately a number of our members were away on holiday, and also due to the fact that many other sporting activities were taking place on the same day, our numbers were somewhat depleted. Nevertheless, thirteen St. Dunstaners with their wives and partners spent a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon in the London Club Rooms.

Mrs. Marion Douglass, wife of St. Dunstaner Les Douglass, who is a great favourite with all our Club members, graciously presented the prizes. As always the visitors were appreciative of the items awarded, which had been made by St. Dunstaners.

The prize winners were as follows:

- (1) **A. Caldwell and Miss Sheila Lyons**  
(2) F. Dickerson and Miss Molly Byrne  
(3) W. Miller and Mrs. I. Rogers  
(4) H. Meleson and Mrs. Meleson

A vote of thanks was given to Norman Smith for the arrangements; also to his wife Flora, with Marion and all the other helpers for the delicious refreshments served, which helped to make this gathering so successful.

### BRIGHTON

The sixth Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 14th June. The results were as follows:

F. Griffie and partner	72
R. Fullard and W. Lethbridge	66
S. Webster and P. McCormick	62
W. Burnett and R. Bickley	60
W. Claydon and C. Walters	57

**H. MELESON**  
*Bridge Secretary*

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### Queen's Police Medal

Charles McConaghy of Belfast, Northern Ireland, has been awarded the Queen's Police Medal. The announcement was made in the Birthday Honours List on 14th June, 1975.



# CLUB NEWS

## MIDLAND

"Showers and bright periods"; this was the weather forecast for Sunday 15th June, the day we had chosen for our annual Club outing. Once again we had decided to go to Southport, and again we were lucky with the weather, missing all the showers and having a very nice sunny day, although a rather cool wind blew all the time.

We left Birmingham at 9.40 a.m. and arrived at Southport at 12.45 p.m., having stopped for approximately half an hour for coffee, etc., at the Motorway Services Station.

On arrival at Southport everyone arranged their own activities for the afternoon. Some members and their families made their way to the Royal British Legion for a thirst quencher, others decided to have a meal first.

The main ports of call during the afternoon seemed to be the pier, the amusement fair and the model village, and according to reports at the end of the day everyone enjoyed themselves no matter where they went.

We left for home at about 6.40 p.m. and had a very enjoyable trip, stopping once again on the Motorway for a break. On the coach there was plenty of lusty singing, accompanied by bazookas, triangles and tamborines, which once again Mrs. Joan Cashmore had brought along. We arrived back in Birmingham at 9.30 p.m. having spent a very enjoyable day, which is the usual thing whenever the Midland Club has a get-together of any description.

Our next outing is planned for the last Sunday in September; this will be to Stratford-upon-Avon, where we shall meet our old friends at the Royal British Legion. We are all looking forward once again to this visit.

Our Club meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at the Royal British Legion Headquarters, Thorp Street, Birmingham. Why not come along and join us, and join in these outings? Everyone will be made very welcome.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary*

## LONDON

The Sir Arthur Pearson Aggregate Domino Competition (eight best results from twelve games) came to its conclusion on the 3rd July, after many close and exciting games. Charlie Hancock was the eventual winner with a score of 61, Bill Miller taking second place with 60. J. Padley was in third place with a score of 52. The very close result indicates the keenness of these competitions.

Domino winners during the month of June were as follows:

June 5th	(1) <b>W. Miller</b>
	(2) C. Hancock
June 12th	(1) <b>C. Hancock</b>
	(2) J. Majchrowicz
June 19th	(1) <b>R. Armstrong</b>
	(2) C. Hancock
June 26th	(1) <b>J. Majchrowicz</b>
	(2) { R. Armstrong C. Hancock

By the time you receive your *Review* many of you will be away enjoying holidays by the sea, mountains or elsewhere in the countryside, but wherever you are we do hope you will have a jolly good time and we shall see you all upon your return to the Club in September.

**W. MILLER**  
*Secretary*

## Chess Congress and Instructional Weekend 14th—16th November, 1975

Chess enthusiasts will be pleased to know that Mr. R. Bonham has accepted our invitation to come to Ian Fraser House on Friday, 14th November 1975 in order to adjudicate at the Chess Congress on 15th and 16th November. He has also agreed to give some instruction during that Weekend to any St. Dunstaners wishing to take up Chess, and to any who are beginners and not confident enough to take part in the competition play.

So, competitors and beginners who want to come, please apply in the usual way to **Miss E. M. Bridger, Homes Booking Clerk, at Headquarters** for a reservation.



## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bagwell* of Salisbury, Wiltshire, are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Sylvia, to John Lynham on 28th June, 1975 at Bradford Abbas, Dorset.

*Dennis Beddoes* of Birmingham, a St. Dunstaner, announces his marriage to Miss Florence Maud Round on 21st June, 1975. We wish them every happiness in their married life.

*Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Southall* of Warley, Worcestershire are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Dale Ruth, to Mr. Paul Tidman at St. Matthew's Church, Smethwick, on 21st June, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Sturgess* of High Wycombe, Bucks., are pleased to announce the marriage of their only daughter, Edwina, to Mr. John Staton on 12th July, 1975.

## Silver Weddings

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Eric Foster* of Barnsley on their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 10th June, 1975.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Creswell Jones* of Wrexham, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 6th May, 1975.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Eli Wild* of Rochdale, Lancashire, on their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 14th June, 1975.

## Golden Weddings

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Duxbury* of Dewsbury, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 27th June, 1975.

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. George Hermitage* of Northfleet, Kent, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 28th June, 1975.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:

*John Barlow* of Sheffield, whose first grandchild Frances Elizabeth, was born to his son John and daughter - in - law Jacqueline on 1st June, 1975.

*Norman Cook* of Croydon, Surrey, on the birth of his first grandchild, Rachael Jayne, to his son John and daughter-in-law Heather on 28th June, 1975.

*Henry Dakin* of Blackpool, Lancs., whose son Arthur and daughter-in-law Jacqueline have a second daughter Bethany Claire born on 3rd February 1975.

*George Salters* on the birth of his seventh grandchild, a son Neil, born to Irene and Michael on 4th June 1975.

## Bowls

*Stephen Blake* of Chertsey, Surrey, has been selected to serve on the Committee of the Chertsey Bowling Club for the second year running.

## Examination & Career Successes

### We offer our congratulations to:

Jack Loram, eldest son of St. Dunstaner *Samuel Loram* of Brixham, South Devon, who has been promoted to Engineer Commander on the Defence Staff for the Royal Navy.

Derek Robinson, son of the late "*Tex*" (*Leslie*) *Robinson and Mrs. Annie Robinson* of Rothesay, Isle of Bute, Scotland, who has gained a Second Class Honours Degree in Chemistry at St. Andrews University.

Helen Tatchell, younger daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Tatchell* who has obtained an Honours Degree in Geography at Manchester University. Helen has been accepted for a course at the Didsbury Training College, Manchester, studying for the Certificate of Education.

John Waterworth, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Granville Waterworth* of Coventry, who has obtained his B.Sc. degree from Aston University. John now hopes to work for the Ministry of Defence.

Marcus Weeks, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Weeks* of St. Leonards-on-Sea, who has gained the degree of B.Mus. (Hons), and is continuing his studies.



## FAMILY NEWS

—continued

### 25 YEARS SERVICE

*Ron Phillips* of Steyning, Sussex, has completed 25 years' service as a telephonist with Shell at their Kingsway, Portslade Depot. He was presented with a canteen of cutlery on 27th May to mark the occasion.

## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

Mrs. Peter Booth of Yeovil and Mrs. John Whitcombe of Eastbourne, sisters and both wives of St. Dunstaners, on the death of their Mother.

*Ronald Towner* of Maidstone, Kent, on the death of his brother in May 1975, in Manchester, and to Mrs. Towner whose mother died on 11th June. They have also recently lost a cousin.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret that we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

### **Harry Appleyard.** *Civil Defence*

Harry Appleyard of Newhaven died at Pearson House on 4th July, aged 78. He lost his sight while fire-watching during an air-raid in the Second World War, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1942. In 1974, due to increasing ill-health, he became a long-term Welfare resident at our Homes in Brighton, and will be remembered affectionately by the staff and his fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lily Appleyard, and two sons Roy and Eric, both married with families.

### **Thomas William Harrison.** *9th Battalion D.L.I.*

Thomas William Harrison of Heeley, Sheffield, Yorkshire, died in hospital on 4th June, 1975. He was 56 years of age.

Thomas was wounded in Holland in 1944 and after coming to St. Dunstan's in November that year he was trained and settled in industrial employment in his home town of Sheffield, where he remained in factory work for almost twenty years. Until last year he enjoyed good health, but then suffered a stroke and despite remedial treatment and spells of convalescence at the St. Dunstan's Homes in Brighton, his health did not improve. He had been re-admitted to hospital a few days before his death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Irene Harrison, and two children, Margaret and Allan.

### **Claude Lightfoot.** *130 R.A., H.A.A.*

Claude Lightfoot of Woodley, Berkshire, died at Pearson House on 2nd July 1975, aged 64.

Claude served as a Gunner in the Second World

War; he was discharged in 1945, and in 1948 was admitted to St. Dunstan's.

He had been a frequent visitor to our Homes in Brighton where, despite his deteriorating health, he remained cheerful, and he will be remembered by staff and fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Adelaide Lightfoot, and daughter Stephanie (Mrs. D. Newton).

### **Walter Snowden.** *Labour Corps*

Walter Snowden of Doncaster, Yorkshire, died at his home on 6th June 1975, aged 87.

Walter suffered defective vision after being wounded in 1917, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until May 1974 after being retired for some years from his work as a baker. He had an illness which kept him confined to bed for some weeks at the beginning of the winter, and although he made some slow progress after this, he was taken ill again two weeks prior to his death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Annie Snowden.

### **John James William Stuart.** *Northamptonshire Regiment*

John James William Stuart of Barking, Essex, died in St. Bartholomew's Hospital on 19th May, after being admitted a month previously. He was 48 years of age. John was wounded in Italy in 1946, and on admission to St. Dunstan's the following year was trained for upholstery work. In 1953 he was re-trained for industrial work, which he continued until he was forced by increasing ill health to retire in 1966.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Eileen Stuart, son Keith, who is engaged to be married, and daughter Suzanne (Mrs. Michael Cook).





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**OCTOBER**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 667

OCTOBER 1975

5p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman

The month of December, as you all know, will bring the fifty-fourth anniversary of the death of our Founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, and the first anniversary of the death of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, our Chairman for fifty-three years.

Sir Neville Pearson, Lady Fraser and I have given careful thought as to how all those connected with St. Dunstan's might wish to remember them both at this time and commemorate their achievements. As St. Dunstaners grow older and travelling conditions are often difficult, it is more and more awkward for people from all over the country to get together in Brighton or London and this applies especially, of course, in the winter. We have therefore decided not to hold another annual "Founder's Day" Service, nor to send a party to the Hampstead Cemetery with a wreath.

We now propose that Sunday, 14th December, should be considered a private "St. Dunstan's Day" and we invite all our readers—St. Dunstaners, staff and our friends—to pause then and remember "C.A.P." and Ian Fraser in whatever way they choose. Some will attend their churches and chapels and others may like to meditate on their own at some time in the day. Newer St. Dunstaners may have no personal memories of the two great men, but they will think of what they have heard or read and be aware of the work of past years.

We also intend next year, when we hold our local Reunions, to introduce a "Silent Toast" in memory of the two leaders and St. Dunstaners no longer with us. I think this will be welcomed as an opportunity to show our respect for them all.

Sir Arthur and Lord Fraser always recognised that St. Dunstaners were individuals and encouraged them to be independent in every possible way. Let us maintain this attitude now and each make our own act of remembrance, thanksgiving and resolution for the future as we pause on Sunday, 14th December, keeping "St. Dunstan's Day" together in our minds and hearts.

December is still some way off, but I am writing this note for the October *Review* so that overseas St. Dunstaners and friends may know what we have in mind and will be able to join us in thought on that day. I am also asking the Reverend Popham-Hosford, our Brighton Chaplain, to write a few words for us all.

### Mr. Popham-Hosford writes:

"Perhaps some of you would like to join in thought and prayer with us when we worship together in St. Dunstan's Chapel at our usual weekly Service at 9.30 a.m. on the 14th December, 1975. It will be a wonderful thing for us to realise that many St. Dunstaners are joining with us in thankful memory for the lives of these two very great men.

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**COVER PICTURE:** *Ted Jinks looks the part during his long walk down the Pennine Way (see centre pages).*



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

SUPPLEMENT OCTOBER 1975

## IMPROVEMENTS IN WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

*Mrs. Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, presented to Parliament proposals to give effect to the increases in Retirement Pensions and other National Insurance Benefits announced in Parliament. Details of the proposed increases and of the improvements to be made in War Pensions, and in some of the Supplementary Allowances, are given in this leaflet.*

### WAR PENSIONS

#### Basic Pension

The Pension for 100% disablement is to be increased by £2.80 a week, and proportionately for lower assessments, so that a private soldier with a 100% disablement pension will receive £21.80 a week instead of £19.00 a week as at present.

#### Constant Attendance Allowance

A St. Dunstaner with guiding vision at present receiving £3.80 will receive £4.35 a week. The rate for total blindness which is at present £7.60 will be increased to £8.70. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who now has £11.40 a week will be entitled to £13.05 a week, and a St. Dunstaner with exceptionally severe disabilities, such as the loss of both hands, additional to blindness who at present receives £15.20, will receive £17.40 a week.

#### Comforts Allowance

There is to be an increase in this Allowance from £3.20 to £3.70 a week for the totally blind and for the Unemployability Supplement pensioner, and from £1.60 to £1.85 a week for the pensioner with guiding vision.

#### Unemployability Supplement

This Supplement which is payable to those War Pensioners who by reason of their pensionable disability are unemployable, is to be increased from £12.40 to £14.20 a week, and any family

allowances which might be payable with this Supplement will also be increased as follows for the 100% Pensioner:

Wife or other adult dependant:

from £7.40 to £8.40

First Child

£6.03 to £6.88

Second Child and Subsequent Children

£4.52 to £5.37

#### Invalidity Allowance

This allowance, payable to those War Pensioners who are awarded the Unemployability Supplement prior to attaining the age of 60 (55 for women), has also been increased. Where the incapacity for work begins before the age of 35 the allowance is increased from £2.40 to £2.80, where the onset of the incapacity falls between the ages of 35 to 45 the allowance is increased to £1.70 instead of £1.50, and where the onset occurs between 45 and 60 (55 for women) the new rate is 85p instead of 75p a week.

#### Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance and Severely Disabled Occupational Allowance

Both these Allowances are to be increased to £8.70 and £4.40 a week respectively.

#### Clothing Allowance

There is to be a small increase in this Allowance (payable where there is exceptional wear and tear on clothing



because of an amputation or for some other special reason) to a maximum of £32.00 a year. (Lower Rate £21.00).

### **Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation**

This Allowance which is paid in exceptional cases only to a very small number of St. Dunstaners who receive less than 100% pensions is to be increased from up to £7.60 a week to up to £8.72 a week maximum.

Examples which may help St. Dunstaners to appreciate how the increases affect them personally may be found on page 3, but if there are any difficulties, will they please get in touch with Mr. L. Slade, our Pensions Officer, at Headquarters.

### **War Widows**

The standard rate of pension for a War Widow aged 40 or over, or under that age with children, is to be increased from £15.00 per week to £17.20 per week. The Rent Allowance for War Widows with children increases from up to £5.80 per

week to £6.70 per week. The age allowances for elderly Widows are to be increased to £1.70 for those ladies between 65 and 70 years of age and to £3.40 for those ladies over 70 years of age.

The increased rates of pension and allowances will operate as from the first pay day in the week commencing 16th November, 1975, which means that the effective date of payment in the majority of cases should be Wednesday, 19th November, 1975.

### **Industrial Injuries Act**

The 100% Disablement Pension payable under this Act to employees disabled in the course of their employment is to be increased from £19.00 a week to £21.80 a week with proportionate increases for lower assessments and some of the allowances payable with the Disablement Pension, which are very much in line with those payable to War Pensioners, are also to be increased.

The Industrial Pension for widows which is at present £12.15 a week is to be raised to £13.85.

## **NATIONAL INSURANCE**

The standard flat rate of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits will go up from £9.80 to £11.10 a week for single people and from £15.90 to £18.00 for married couples.

Retirement Pensions are to be increased for the single person to £13.30 a week and for the married couples to £21.12.

The Widow's Pension will also be increased from £11.60 to £13.30 a week.

Other proposed National Insurance Benefits improvements include Invalidity Benefit, Dependency Allowances for Children, Widowed Mother's Allowance, Guardian's Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Maternity Allowance.



## EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS Employable

	Present £	New £
<b>Totally Blind</b>		
Basic Pension	19.00	21.80
Attendance Allowance	7.60	8.70
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<u>£30.68</u>	<u>£35.08</u>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	19.00	21.80
Attendance Allowance	3.80	4.35
Comforts Allowance	1.60	1.85
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<u>£25.28</u>	<u>£28.88</u>
<b>Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate</b>		
of Attendance Allowance	£	£
Basic Pension	19.00	21.80
Attendance Allowance	15.20	17.40
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Special Occupational Allowance	3.80	4.40
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance	7.60	8.70
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<u>£49.68</u>	<u>£56.88</u>

## Unemployable

	£	£
<b>Totally Blind</b>		
Basic Pension	19.00	21.80
Attendance Allowance	7.60	8.70
Unemployability Supplement	12.40	14.20
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Wife's Allowance	7.40	8.40
Allowance for First Child	6.03	6.88
*Invalidity Allowance	0.75	0.85
	<u>£56.38</u>	<u>£64.53</u>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	19.00	21.80
Attendance Allowance	3.80	4.35
Unemployability Supplement	12.40	14.20
Comforts Allowance	3.20	3.70
Wife's Allowance	7.40	8.40
Allowance for First Child	6.03	6.88
*Invalidity Allowance	0.75	0.85
	<u>£52.58</u>	<u>£60.18</u>

\* Based on the assumption that the St. Dunstaner is over 45 when first drawing Unemployability Supplement.

If a St. Dunstaner is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £4.80 a week.







We will use these prayers :

O Almighty God, who willest to be glorified in the lives of them that serve thee, and didst use thy servants Arthur and Ian to bring hope, courage and new life to those who might otherwise have fallen under their burden. We thank thee for their lives and examples, and for their strength and sympathy. Grant us in our turn the grace to shine as light in thy world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We commend unto thee, O Lord, our souls and our bodies, our minds and our thoughts, our prayers and our hopes, our health and our work, our life and our death, our loved ones and our friends, our benefactors and especially St. Dunstan's, and all other folk, this day and for always. Amen.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen."

## MEMORIAL TABLET TO LORD FRASER

I am delighted to tell you that we have been given permission by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey to erect a tablet in memory of Lord Fraser, to be placed on the west wall of the Cloisters.

We are told that about a year will be required before the tablet can be erected and that the Abbey authorities must first approve the design. Details are not yet available but I wanted to give you advance knowledge of the project.

I shall be writing to each St. Dunstaner in the New Year with more news about this Memorial. There will then be an opportunity for individuals to contribute towards the cost, if they so wish.

*Jon Earnest-Dune*

*Chairman*

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## TOP CHANGES AT THE R.N.I.B.

The following important changes were announced at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal National Institute for the Blind held on Wednesday 23rd July.

**The Rt. Hon. the Viscount Head, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B.E., M.C., to be President** in succession to the Rt. Hon. the Viscount Cobham, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., J.P., T.D.

**Mr. Duncan A. Watson, B.A., to be Chairman** in succession to Viscount Head.

**Mr. John A. Wall, M. A. (Oxon) to be Vice-Chairman** in succession to Mr. D. A. Watson.

This means that the posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Director-General of the R.N.I.B. are all held by blind men.

## THE BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S, AUSTRALIA

Our readers will be interested to hear that the following appointments were made in Australia earlier this year. The officers concerned remain in their appointments for two years.

President :

**Colin E. Johnston** (Victoria)

Vice-President :

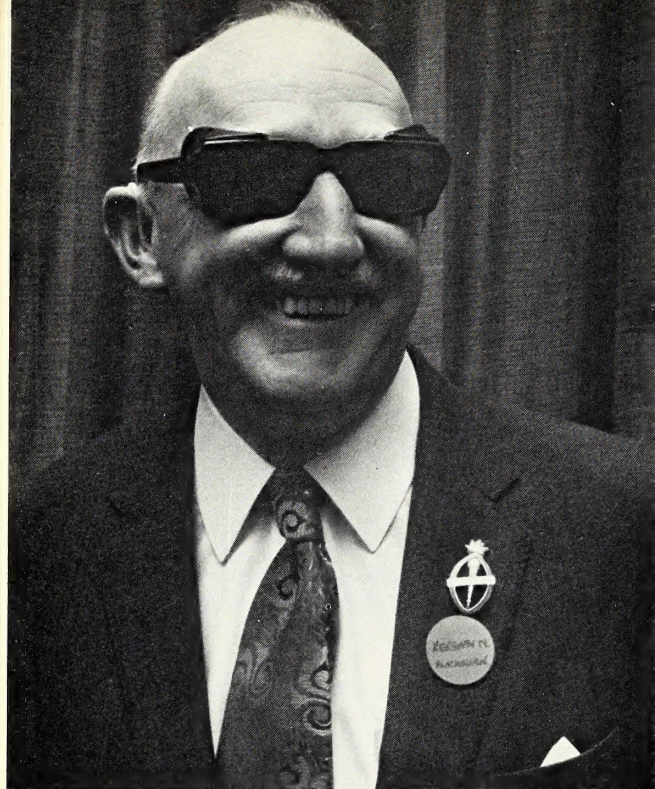
**Robert P. Farmer** (South Australia)

Honorary Secretary/Treasurer :

**Pat R. Longden** (Victoria)

All St. Dunstaners will also wish to congratulate Leslie Hoult, Victoria, who was awarded the British Empire Medal in the 1975 New Year's Honours List.





Norman Kershaw (above) looks back to his 71 days in 1941 (below).



## Re-living Operation Colossus

**Norman Kershaw re-unites the flyers and the paras**

### *Introduction*

On 7th February 1941 Norman Kershaw, as wireless operator, flew from Mildenhall to Malta in a Whitley bomber of the R.A.F. Six Whitleys took part in Operation Colossus and their objective was to make the first night drop of parachute troops to attack and destroy Tragino aqueduct at Apulia in Italy. The crews of the aircraft had spent less than a month training, dropping their parachutes on Tatton Park, Cheshire, which was a dropping zone for paratroops in training during the Second World War.

The operation was successful in that five of the aircraft found the target and dropped their paratroops, who blew up the aqueduct. It was planned that the troops would make their way to the coast to be picked up by the submarine *Triumph* but neither troops nor submarine made the rendezvous. Nevertheless the only casualty was one man with a broken foot, although, sadly, an Italian interpreter was killed.

In July 1941 Norman Kershaw was shot down during a successful attack on the *Scharnhorst* and his injuries caused his loss of sight many years later, but it is the parachute operation that has most memories for him. He hit upon the idea of contacting as many as possible of the flyers and paratroops who took part.

Weeks of correspondence and telephoning culminated on July 19th at Tatton Park, where it had all begun. In the article which follows Norman describes his meeting with some of his colleagues on Operation Colossus at an Airborne Reunion.

### *Norman Kershaw writes :*

My son and I arrived at the Royal George Hotel, Knutsford, where we had all arranged to meet from our various journeys, have lunch and then go on to Tatton together about 11.30 a.m. Group Captain J. B. (Willie) Tait, the R.A.F.





*Parachute troops in training jump from a Whitley bomber in 1941.*

photo: Imperial War Museum

Officer i/c of the operation in 1941 and Wing Commander in those days, had travelled up from London by car leaving about 8.15 a.m. My pilot, W. R. (Walter) Williams, now Group Captain (Rtd.) and Flight Lieutenant in February 1941 and second i/c, had travelled from Wales. In view of the heavy traffic we had all met it was a small miracle in itself that we were all sitting down together quaffing our various drinks, reminiscing over old times, reasonably to the time planned. Their voices hadn't changed much with the years; perhaps softer and less harsh under these relaxed conditions, as they would bring my son into the conversation, explaining some detail of their present work or drawing on our memories to try to fill in some of the gaps of the raid after thirty-four-and-a-half years.

Over an excellent lunch Walter and I briefed Willie on the correspondence I had had with various people: the effort Harry Pexton, one of the original Paras, had put in over the past few years to trace and organise the X Troop reunions; of the

tragic death of his daughter the previous weekend.

It was going up for 2 p.m. before we realised it, and we literally baled out of the *George* into Garry's car. That was the beginning. As we approached the Park entrance the Police diverted us to the other side as that drive was apparently jammed solid with cars. It was the same at the other side to some extent, although this being the main approach we did manage to creep up to the car park. As we approached the ground where the display was taking place even I could hear the enormous noise of the people gathered there and we then realised our task to find X Troop in this crowd. We were told later there were 10,000 people in Tatton by 12 o'clock.

Eventually we found the P.R.A. tent where we had all arranged to meet. Apparently other people had had the same idea because of the adjacent tent with liquid refreshments. It was a miracle to me that I had even managed to be piloted this far without having made a



soft landing of my own, but somehow this crowd had apparently parted when from in front of it we had been pointed in the direction of the tent. Behind, a loud-speaker was explaining that the aircraft overhead was a Hercules, from which apparently a mass drop was taking place.

It was to this background of noise and activity that we stood wondering however we were going to find Harry and the lads when a voice spoke: "Norman, I presume, and the pilots of X Troop". It was Harry. He and his family had come later, in spite of all their trouble, to greet us. Suddenly, amidst this concourse of people, introductions were being exchanged between old comrades, drinks handed round and there we were back thirty-four-and-a-half years. Either by chance or design the tents had been erected, it seemed, on the rising ground near the trees and therefore the drops taking place were being made on the identical spot where the dummy viaduct had been erected in January/February 1941. I could visualise what was happening as the commentator described the events, although from a different angle. They would be coming in over the lake through the open dropping ground and fly on in the direction of Ringway, but probably turning to avoid Ringway's traffic on that day, 19th July 1975. We had done the same in 1941, but to avoid Manchester's defence barrage. Both Walter and Willie seemed to enjoy every minute, as I listened some of the time to the conversation around me. Did we remember the night drop on Ringway, or was it Tatton? One of the lads was describing his fall. How he had mistaken the shadow of his parachute on that moonlit night for a bomb crater and had tried to spill himself away from it. How Clements had been literally held by his shoulder straps by two of them, his feet dangling out of the aircraft as the pilot made a second approach to the Tragino Viaduct on the night of the raid. The antics they got up to when captured.

As we sped back down the motorway I was thinking of something that had been said—or had it been read to me—but for the lads of X Troop and the Tragino raid there would have been no Paras, or perhaps a much longer delay in accepting the feasibility of their rôle on D-Day.

## The Late Alf Field

With the sudden and unexpected passing away of Alf Field our Bridge Club has suffered a tragic loss.

In 1938 Alf brought a team from the Post Office to play against members from our young Bridge Club. He immediately realised that here was a chance to enrich our lives by introducing the teaching of Bridge with the aid of a system. Our Captain, Charlie Gover, at once accepted this opportunity and so began the lasting association with Alf and our Club. There came first the setting up of elementary principles to be followed by more advanced knowledge of the Stern (Austrian) system.

Then started many years of hard study, writing and illustrations. Alf's patience and devotion were rewarded over the years by seeing the happiness and interest he brought into our lives.

At the outbreak of the War, Alf, evacuated with his Post Office Department to Harrogate, conceived the idea that some of our members should visit Harrogate to play Bridge. With the help of friends he had made there, the yearly visit (the 36th was this year) started. On his return to London after the War and, in time, with the arrival of younger members from the Second War, he continued his earlier efforts, now introducing the more up-to-date Acol system. He ran our Bridge Congresses and Instruction Week-ends, ably assisted by his wife, Norah, and Geoff Connell. In recognition of his valuable services he was in 1968 made a Governor of St. Dunstan's.

To us he has proved himself to be the Ace of Trumps. Thank you, Alf, for building our Bridge, your Bridge, to our happiness.

At the Church and Crematorium Services the Club was represented by R. Armstrong, L. Douglass, Miss Vera Kemmish, Jerry Lynch, P. Nuyens and N. Smith. Amongst other friends present were Geoff Connell, the Misses M. and E. Byrne, Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Douglass and Miss D. Kemmish.

To his wife, his son, Peter, his daughter, Maureen and their families, we extend our heartfelt condolences in their great loss.

L. DOUGLASS  
P. NUYENS



## Tributes To Frank Rhodes

From *S. H. Webster*:

Many St. Dunstaners throughout the organisation, especially those residing in the Brighton area, will have learned with deep regret of the passing of Frank Rhodes. I first met up with Frank in the 2nd London General Hospital, Kings Road, Chelsea, in the midsummer of 1917, and since that date have remained very good friends. Frank was a very able St. Dunstaner, a first class organiser and always willing to give a helping hand and friendly advice to all those with whom he came in contact. Yes, he was a very good ambassador for our organisation.

Frank was a founder-member of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club. He was also Chairman of the Brighton Social Club, a post he held with much distinction.

R.I.P., Frankie.

From *Paul Nuyens*:

Our St. Dunstan's family deplores the sudden passing away, at the age of 84, of its well-known and popular member Frank Rhodes. I first met him when I came to St. Dunstan's in January 1921, when we were both staying at Cornwall Terrace and he was finishing his training to become a shorthand-typist. He soon left to take up his profession, which he carried on until his retirement in 1951. He then settled in Ovingdean Village near the present Ian Fraser House.

Together with his devoted wife Dorothy having always played an enthusiastic part in St. Dunstan's activities such as walking and dancing, whist and bridge, it was not surprising that as soon as Frank retired his main thought was to form a Club in order to promote such activities for those living in the Brighton area.

He soon succeeded in getting sufficient support from his comrades to form the Brighton Club, of which he became Chairman. To the aforementioned pursuits bowling was added, and this became one of his favourite sports.

Five years ago he had the misfortune to lose his dear wife, but nevertheless courageously continued his Chairmanship of the Club until circumstances made him decide to join his married daughter in Sutton Coldfield.

His friendly character gained him, not only in St. Dunstan's but also in the general community, many friends who through him became interested and most helpful towards our blind comrades. In latter years his son John accompanied his father to the Harrogate Bridge Week, and like his father gave invaluable help to the party. But for his sudden collapse Frank would have been there again in September.

He was a great example to all of us of what St. Dunstan's stands for, and his memory will be cherished by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. He was indeed a grand chap, "a charming gentleman" as was so well expressed by one of our greatest Harrogate friends in a letter to me.

From *W. T. ("Ginger") Scott*:

I would like to express my gratitude to dear Frank Rhodes for his friendship over 55 years.

In 1920 we were trained as Shorthand Typists and for several years, together with eight other St. Dunstaners, we were employed at the Clearing Office for Enemy Debts near Waterloo Bridge.

Frank was most versatile with his support at our camps and on behalf of all put to the best use any facilities that were offered by St. Dunstan's for our entertainment and well-being.

With his wife Dolly, on retirement to Ovingdean they became staunch supporters of the Brighton Club.

Frank made great use of his organising ability and was instrumental in making contacts with interested friends in bowling clubs, bridge clubs and all sorts of social life in Sussex.

He exercised great tact and judgement in all sorts of ways for the benefit of the Brighton Club. We could always rely upon him to smooth out any problems in any circumstance.

It is fitting that in the August issue of our *Review* it is recorded how Frank toasted St. Dunstaners at the Birmingham Reunion—a few days before he died.

Let us all be upstanding and raise our glasses to our dear departed colleague Frank Rhodes whose sincerity and devotion to St. Dunstan's we remember with pride and admiration.



# REUNIONS

## SOUTHAMPTON

Sunshine and showers were the order of the day for the tenth of the Regional Reunions held at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton, on Thursday 17th July. Altogether 74 people sat down to lunch, among them 7 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 24 from the Second World War or subsequent operations. We had hoped that "Fergie" (Mr. D. W. Ferguson) would be with us but unfortunately he could not attend. We did have a reporter from the *Southern Evening Echo* and Peter White, a well-known blind journalist who works on Radio Solent's "Link" programme and contributes to Radio 4's "In Touch" programme almost every week.

The Polygon is very suitable for St. Dunstan's Reunions and we have been there quite often in the past. The arrangements were made most successfully by Mrs. M. Y. Lyall, Welfare Visitor responsible.

The Rev. F. Darrell Bunt, C.B., O.B.E., M.A., accompanied by Mrs. Bunt, was the member of the Council presiding, and he began his speech after the luncheon by

bringing greetings from all members of the Council, and a special message from Lady Fraser who had been given strict doctor's orders not to travel down from London. However, she sent her love and good wishes to everyone present.

After telling his audience which members of the Staff were present and adding a special word of thanks to Mrs. Lyall, Mr. Darrell Bunt spoke some welcoming words to David Moss, Christchurch, attending his first Reunion. He had served in the First World War in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, losing the sight of one eye. Subsequently he worked for many years for the R.S.P.C.A., and blindness in the other eye did not occur until recently.

"This last year has been a rather outstanding year for many reasons in the life of St. Dunstan's", said Mr. Darrell Bunt. "First of all, of course, was one that was very sad, and that was the loss of our Chairman, Lord Fraser, and that was very unexpected, very sudden and a terrific loss. Those of you who managed to get to the Abbey for the Thanksgiving Service

*Mr. Wills cuts the Diamond Jubilee gâteau at Southampton in the presence of Tommy and Mrs. Bice, Reg Barrett, The Rev. F. Darrell Bunt and Mrs. Lyall.*





for a wonderful life, wonderful character, real appreciation of a great man, I don't think those of us who were there will ever forget it. And we were very lucky that Lord Redcliffe-Maud was the person who gave the Address, because he absolutely summed up the character of Ian Fraser, made us realise the character of the man and what he did, in spite of all the handicaps he had, and I personally shall never forget that as long as I live".

Two other outstanding events this year, said Mr. Darrell Bunt, were that St. Dunstan's was celebrating its Diamond Jubilee and that Ian Fraser House had been re-opened in April. He praised all the arrangements available at our principal Home, and added that those who liked going to Ovingdean had a real treat in store for them.

### **Council of St. Dunstan's**

"Now some of you may have been asking yourselves", continued Mr. Darrell Bunt, "what is St. Dunstan's going to be like without Ian Fraser? Because there's absolutely no doubt about it, that St. Dunstan's was or is Ian Fraser. I think St. Dunstan's is an absolutely living testament to the man himself. So I thought I ought to talk to you this afternoon about those who have the responsibility for carrying on the tradition of St. Dunstan's, the members of the Council . . . first of all I don't need to tell you anything about our President, Sir Neville Pearson, who has carried on what his father started, and then we have our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, a merchant banker. As you know, he was Honorary Treasurer of St. Dunstan's for many years and he was designated by Lord Fraser as Vice-Chairman to succeed him, and I think it was a very, very wise decision, and very sound. A great man, he has great understanding and sympathy and love for the work of St. Dunstan's. He is also a very able administrator.

Then I'll just mention some of the members of the Council. The Vice-Chairman, I don't need to introduce him, that's Sir Mike Ansell, a great horseman, as you know he organises the Horse of the Year Show. He's a great man and being a blind man himself, of course, understands the needs of the blind. Then there is that oldest member, not in years

but in service, a very popular man at Reunions, Dr. Donald Hopewell, who has been a member of the Council for nearly 30 years, and is a lawyer, a man who has very much the wellbeing of St. Dunstan's at heart. He has a phenomenal memory, he seems to remember everybody he meets.

Then there is Lord Normanby who has had a lot to do with the blind and for the blind, I remember in the War he was instrumental in helping lots of blinded prisoners-of-war. Then we have Sir Edwin Arrowsmith who was a colonial administrator and was Governor of the Falkland Islands, there we have a man of great ability to look after our interests. There's Lord Hunt of Fawley, now he was better known as Dr. John Hunt, he is a brilliant surgeon and a brilliant physician, he's a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and also of the Royal College of Physicians, you may be quite sure that he also understands our problems. Then there is Lord Redcliffe-Maud, I'll tell you a bit about him, if you heard him at the Abbey you'll know, he's a distinguished scholar, he is also an administrator, for better or for worse he was responsible for drawing up the report which altered the whole character of district and local councils.

### **Younger Council Members**

Then we come to our younger members, Mr. Nigel Pearson, son of Sir Neville, who will also obviously carry on the family tradition, Mr. Delmar-Morgan who is also a merchant banker and who has now taken on our Honorary Treasurership.

There are three members representing the Services: General Sir Richard Goodbody, somebody who is often at Reunions, there is Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris who looks after the Air Force and then there is yours truly, who from days of the past represents not only the Navy but the Church; I was in the Navy for 30 years.

So there you have some of the members of the Council. Then in addition we have on the Council three other members: the Chairman of the R.N.I.B., a representative of the Royal British Legion and of the Scottish National Institution for the War-Blinded. So you can see that you have got men from all walks of life, experience, sensitivity and



those who have been blinded, and I feel sure you can feel that you are in good hands . . . Of course, it is up to all of us, that the spirit of St. Dunstan's shall remain what it has always been".

### Lighter Side

Turning to the lighter side of things, Mr. Darrell Bunt told his audience that Lord Fraser used to give members of the Council tips on how to deal with blind people and he added one of his own. Being himself about six feet tall he found that one of the most deadly enemies was the beam up top and for that reason he always wore a hat to protect his head.

"Greetings from the Council", concluded Mr. Darrell Bunt, "lovely to see you here, hope you have a lovely day and many happy returns to you".

In his vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners Fred Greenaway stressed the importance of the Reunions in St. Dunstan's calendar. "I think it is symbolic of our late Chairman's endeavours to create an atmosphere of a family where one human being has a great high regard for another", said Mr. Greenaway, and he continued, "I think it is quite a refreshing thought in this world of ours where the milk of human kindness seems to be degenerating into just one other world shortage commodity". He then thanked Mr. Darrell Bunt for his most eloquent and informative speech, and he also thanked all members of St. Dunstan's staff for their efforts during the past year. He concluded by thanking the management and staff of the hotel for an excellent meal. Mrs. Greenaway presented a basket of flowers to Mrs. Darrell Bunt.

### Jubilee Special

At tea time a large ice cream gâteau appeared, decorated with the St. Dunstan's badge to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. This had been arranged by our St. Dunstaner Tommy Bice's wife who works at Horton's in Bournemouth, and slices were served to everyone present.

A very old friend of St. Dunstan's, Brian Gorman, who as First World War St. Dunstaners may remember, was in charge of St. Dunstan's dance band many years ago entertained the company on the piano during the afternoon.

## LONDON

Back again to the Hotel Russell for the second of the London Reunions, which was held on Saturday, 19th July. This time the St. Dunstaners—11 from the First and 53 from the Second World War or subsequent operations—came mainly from Kent and Surrey, but a few also from Berkshire, Hampshire and Middlesex and from Northern Ireland. With us were Ernest Anderson from South Burnaby, British Columbia, and Richard Megenis of East London, Cape Province, with their wives. Other welcome guests were Mr. A. D. Lloyds, C.B.E., F.C.A., Mr. Eric Roberts and Mr. P. Townshend, formerly members of St. Dunstan's staff, and we were honoured by the presence of Mr. Eric Boulter, Director-General of the R.N.I.B., who was accompanied by Mrs. Boulter. Our good friend Miss Diana Hoare was also there.

Altogether about 150 people sat down to lunch and with us were four St. Dunstan's widows, Mrs. Elphick, Mrs. Fester, Mrs. Hedger and Mrs. Hounslow.

Our Vice-Chairman, Col. Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L., presided at the Reunion and in his speech he first welcomed everyone on behalf of the Council and gave particular thanks to Miss H. Stewart who was responsible for the arrangements. "... possibly at this time many of you must be thinking", said Sir Michael, "what in hell is happening in this country, with the lack of discipline, and in no kind of self-pity or anything one wonders, we fought like hell for this country, we did everything we possibly could, we were self-disciplined, and since the War, thanks to Lord Fraser, we disciplined our lives, and his whole philosophy was 'You must go on, the more you do the more we'll help you'.

"And I have found many St. Dunstaners who lost both arms, or who possibly are deaf as well as blind, have just jolly well gone on, and yet you get in the country at present this sort of thing, like 'oh, we'll sit back and do damn all, or we'll argue for this or we'll argue for that', and it is to me absolutely tragic. Now, I got to know Lord Fraser extremely well, and at times I used to get rather tired from travelling from Devonshire up to London, to get involved in the horse world which I've done since 1947, and I used to go



to him by the time I got to 65, I'm 70 now, and say, 'You know, honestly, I've had enough of that journey in the train, then I have to stay in London'—last year it was 143 nights, which I thought a very long time. He replied, 'My dear boy, never resign, what can we do to help you?'

"And that has been the whole philosophy of St. Dunstan's; the more work you do, the more happiness you'll feel, and this idea of sitting back and doing nought—to my mind boredom or monotony is absolute hell, though in actual fact I am giving up the two Horse Shows at the end of this year. I've got one next week and then another one in October, but then I shall be 71. But I shan't be doing nothing, that I promise you, I'll be either gardening, or fishing or writing or doing more and more if I can for St. Dunstan's, and at times, I think probably like all of you when you're standing on a platform at a station wondering whether you can get a porter by yourself, being very frustrated, you've rather felt, and I've felt the same, to hell with it, to hell with it. But then on the other hand, I've said to myself quietly, thank God I'm a St. Dunstaner and can put up with it, and it's been all right.

"To me St. Dunstan's has been a tremendous breakthrough, with great traditions; and I know in the horse world, I've been in it for a long time, that when I step out at the end of this year, all those others under me have worked for me for a very long time, and it'll go on exactly the same. And it is exactly the same with Lord Fraser, he was a very great genius and he knew what he wanted, he passed it on to all those persons under him and like in any Regiment, whether you are a commanding officer, squadron or company commander, or platoon commander or troop leader, if you are worth a damn you should be able to be killed or taken prisoner and the thing goes on exactly the same, and I know that would be the wish of Lord Fraser.

"We've now got the most superb Chairman in Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, who has worked with Lord Fraser for 17 years; he knows all Lord Fraser's thoughts and like any good Regiment, St. Dunstan's will go on with the same traditions and exactly the same, and I'm absolutely certain of it, and all of us St. Dunstaners will be encouraged, as long as we can, to



*Colonel Sir Michael Ansell.*

work, and we'll be helped in every possible way. And I honestly am proud, I get slightly frustrated and I do say, thank God I am a St. Dunstaner, I've been trained as one. Now lastly, I must tell you I've been seeing Lady Fraser every week that I've been in London, she's a very close friend; and she sends you her sincere good wishes, but what is much better, she'll be here about quarter-past-three."

Replying on behalf of St. Dunstan's, Tom Hart, Folkestone, said it gave him great pleasure to propose the vote of thanks for providing the opportunity for the get-together, and to catch up with the news of the past year. "It would be remiss of me", said Mr. Hart, "not to mention with sorrow our past Chairman, the late Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, but I'm sure that the way he lived for St. Dunstan's and with the work that he did for the blind and the disabled throughout the world, his name will live on for many years, and for generations to come... it is great news to hear that Lady Fraser will be here herself this afternoon, and I am sure that our Chairman today will pass on your good wishes to our new Chairman, Mr. Garnett-Orme, and to all the Council, to whom we send our sincere wishes.



"To the staff of St. Dunstan's past and present, we thank them very much indeed for the assistance that they've given us, and particularly to Miss Stewart, Mrs. Lyall and Miss Blebta for organising the Reunion today. I would like to give a little special vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, who care for us when we either stay or pass through Broadhurst Gardens. It is my particular pleasure today to propose this vote of thanks, because twenty-three or twenty-four years ago I was also in a prisoner-of-war camp with Col. Mike Ansell, and he provided for us in a prisoner-of-war camp all the floral decorations that made life much more habitable in that camp, and also we were

very grateful for the occasional bowls of green salad that came our way.

"To the staff of the Russell Hotel, I say thank you very much indeed for your hospitality, not only to the Manager and his staff, the chef and his staff in the kitchen and the waiters who have waited on us at table today, but to that gallant band of men who do the shuttle service for us down in the cloakrooms."

Lady Fraser did indeed arrive during the afternoon and spoke to as many people as possible. This gave great pleasure to the whole company.

Three musicians played during lunch and afterwards the Talbot Orchestra for dancing. So ended the 1975 series of Regional Reunions.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**John Bailey, M.M.**, of Birmingham, joined St. Dunstan's on 27th August. He served in the R.A.F. during the Second World War, and was wounded at El Alamein in 1942. He is married and has two grown-up children.

**Gordon Thomas Parr**, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, joined St. Dunstan's in April 1975. Mr. Parr served as a craftsman in the R.E.M.E. and was discharged in 1961 as a result of injuries. He has a metal business in partnership with his brother, and is married with three young children.

**Sidney Mozart Hebditch**, London N.6. was admitted to membership on 27th August 1975. He served as a Private in the R.A.M.C. during the First World War, and is married with a grown-up son.

**Albert Steer** of Billingham, Cleveland, joined St. Dunstan's in August this year. He served with the R.A.F. in the Second World War, and until 1972 was a steel and foundry worker. He is married, and has five children.

**Thomas Voyce, O.B.E.**, of Gloucester, joined St. Dunstan's in July, 1975. He was a Territorial, who served in the Gloucesters and was commissioned in the Queen's Royal West Kent Regiment in the First War. He is married with a grown-up family and retired, but has many interests and is active in local public life. He is particularly well known as a Rugby player of the 1920's and a past President of the Rugby Union.

## MRS. PLAXTON'S PRESENT

St. Dunstaners in the North-East will be pleased to learn that as a result of their generous contributions to a Presentation Fund for Mrs. Irene Plaxton, who has retired from St. Dunstan's service after eight years as a Welfare Visitor, she has selected a Philips Pocket Memo as her gift. This, together with a cheque for the balance of the Fund, was sent to her in August.

Mrs. Plaxton sends her very warm thanks and appreciation to her many friends amongst St. Dunstaners.

## Talking Book Library: In Welsh

John Hughes, Aberffraw, is to make a recording in Welsh for the Talking Book Library; it will comprise two hymns, a Bible reading and a story. Last year John made a similar, but shorter, hymn recording.



# CLUB NEWS

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## MIDLAND

Sunday, 13th July, was the date for our July meeting which, I am sorry to say, was rather quiet owing to some of our members being unable to attend due to sickness and others being on holiday. This meant that we were unable to push ahead with our competitions and only the first two legs of the semi-final game between Joe Kibbler and Lorrie Rea were played; that game stands at one-all at the moment. The tea was provided for us at this meeting by Mrs. Connie Faulkner, and we all thanked her in our usual manner for a very nice spread.

We were very pleased indeed to welcome Norman Maries and his wife Inga, and sincerely hope that they will continue to attend our meetings and join in with all our other activities.

Our sincere congratulations and best wishes for the future go to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Beddoes, who were married on Saturday, 21st June, at Birmingham Registry Office.

Our diary for the year has now been fully booked. A popular outing is to Stratford-upon-Avon to visit our old friends at the Royal British Legion once more; the date for this being Sunday, September 28th. Our final event for the year is also booked; this is our annual Christmas Dinner, this year to take place on Saturday, 20th December.

These are two good items in our annual calendar. Why not come along to our club meetings and then join in the various attractions.

Our meeting held on Sunday, 10th August, was fairly well-attended although two or three members were absent owing to either holidays or sickness.

However, we were able to get the singles domino competition semi-finals played off; the final will be between Guy Bilcliff and Joe Kibbler. The doubles competition is still very slow in really getting under way and we are hoping to get these matches speeded up a little.

The tea for this meeting was prepared for us by Mrs. Olwyn Rea and we all thanked her in our usual manner for a lovely spread.

During this economic crisis it is a

great problem to know just how to keep Club funds in line with ever-increasing rises in costs of outings, etc., and an idea was put forward by Mrs. Joan Cashmore that we should sell Christmas cards and other Christmas decorations between our members and their families and friends. So on Saturday, 6th September, she arranged a coffee evening at our home and invited our members to come along and see just what there was to buy. It was a great success and the profits from the sale of Christmas items will go into our Club account.

Joan worked very hard to prepare a very nice spread to tempt people to buy after they had eaten. I would like to thank Miss Newbold for attending and giving us her support.

I am afraid that I must finish now on a note of sadness. It was with deep regret that we heard of the death of Miss Topsy Shakespeare at her home in Weston-super-Mare, on 6th August. When she lived in Birmingham, Topsy, who was the daughter of our late First War St. Dunstaner, Bill Shakespeare, along with her brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Margaret, helped our Club quite a lot and did wonderful work to help us form our new Club when we moved to the Club-rooms that we now use. Two years ago when we made a visit to Brent Knoll in Somerset, the home of Bill and Margaret, Topsy worked very hard to ensure that our visit was a great success.

I know that will be only one of the many memories which our members will have of Topsy.

Our sincere condolences go to Bill and Margaret Shakespeare in their sad loss.

*DOUG CASHMORE Secretary*

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## HAM RADIO WEEK-END

Active radio amateurs or listeners who have not already notified Norman French at H.Q. that they would like to take part in this week-end are asked to do so as soon as possible.

The event will be held at Ian Fraser House. The main programme, being planned for October 18th, will include guest speakers and displays and demonstrations of equipment.





# *Alice meets a Blind Hatter*

*by*

*Carol Lewis*

*Reprinted from "The New Beacon", June 1975, by kind permission of the R.N.I.B.*

Alice grew tired of croquet, so she wandered off along a sandy red path which led into a wood. Soon she came to a clearing in which there was a beautiful scented garden with fountains and a sundial. Seeing a bench, she decided to sit for a while to enjoy the sun's warmth and the sweet perfumes.

It was as she was watching the brightly-coloured butterflies flitting between the flowers that she noticed out of the corner of her eye a figure, very much like the Mad Hatter, coming along the path at a

good pace. He was wearing white top hat, lime-green waistcoat and yellow trousers, and swinging a rainbow-coloured cane. Reaching the seat he gave it a sharp whack, said "Ah, there's nobody here", and sat down.

"I'm here", said Alice, "and if I'd been there you'd have made me jump from there to here".

"Well, that's where you are", said the Hatter, pushing a mint into his mouth, "so what are you complaining about?"

Alice was just going to give him a piece of her mind when she suddenly realised the significance of the stick. "Oh", she said. "Are you blind?"

"As a bat", snapped the Hatter. "In fact I'm blinder than a bat because I can't see



anything at all. That's why they call me visually handicapped, you know."

"Pardon?"

"Don't you listen, little girl? What I said was that blind people these days are called visually handicapped."

"That doesn't make sense to me", said Alice, frowning her brow. "If you're blind, you're blind, but if you're visually handicapped you're struggling with poor sight."

At this the Hatter took off his hat, put it on top of his stick and began to twizzle—something he always did when thinking. "It's worse to say I'm blind", he blurted out.

### Blind Abilities

"Not it", said Alice, "if that's what you are. No one can be blind for very long without getting some abilities that the rest of us haven't got, such as a more sensitive touch, keener hearing, deeper powers of concentration and a better memory. Blind people have a good reputation as musicians too, and anyone will tell you how cheerful and reliable they all are."

"Well", said the Hatter, taking a deep breath and puffing out his chest as far as it would go. "This may well be true in my case but it's not always so, you know. Have a mint."

The conversation lapsed into a contented lull. The only sounds on the warm summer air were the buzzing of the bees, the singing of the songbirds and the occasional distant shout of "Off with his head!"

Slowly the hat began to twizzle again. "I expect", he said, "that it's because most blind people can see that we're all now called 'visually handicapped'".

"Pardon?"

"Well, well, dear, dear", said the Hatter, twizzling faster. "Pay more attention. You see, the law says that you're legally blind if—and let me get this right—you're so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential. And someone decided this means anyone who can only see at three metres what the fully sighted can at sixty."

"But suppose", said Alice with a twinkle in her eye, "suppose I could see

a teeny bit better. Let's say I could just make out at four, five or six metres what the rest can at sixty. What would happen then?"

"That's easy", said the Hatter. "You'd be put on the partially-sighted list—those are the ones whose vision is substantially and permanently impaired you know—unless . . ." He paused to turn his face skyward. "Unless you were put on the blind register, which would be the case if you didn't have much side vision, or if your particular eye specialist thought you'd go blind soon, or—phew—if, being a child, he thought that you ought to be educated in a blind school, or . . ."

"Are you telling me", Alice butted in, wide-eyed, "that under your law the blind can see more than the partially sighted?"

"Sometimes they can", said the Hatter. "You see, a specialist may feel he's being most helpful by putting people on the blind register, especially youngsters. I know a boy who refused because he didn't want to stop riding his bike."

### The Difference

"Goodness me", said Alice, confused. "What's the difference, then, between one register and the other?"

"These days", said the Hatter, "not much when you work it out, but before the welfare state came along there was all the difference in the world. The blind got all the help that was going whilst the partially sighted received little or nothing except maybe a suitable education."

"What a shame", said Alice. "How did they manage?"

"As best they could of course", snapped the Hatter. "And they still do. A little sight without the tag 'blind' attached has one advantage in itself—it means that everyone accepts them as sighted. Partially-sighted people often respond by pretending to see a good deal more than they actually can. We all want to be like the next chap, you know. A fellow I know stood in front of a wall map whilst his boss was rapidly pointing out with a ruler strategic towns and areas where he wanted action. All my friend could see was a blurred splodge, and yet by managing to look interested and asking unobtrusive questions, he learned all he



needed to know without his boss getting a whiff of any sight difficulty. Sometimes, though, speech gives the game away. Like when a chap says sorry after bumping into a lamp-post. If a policeman asks in a stern voice why a chap went into the Ladies instead of the Gents, it's best not to try a cover-up job", chuckled the Hatter.

Alice, smiling, asked how the totally blind made out amongst the seeing. "Pretty well", came the reply. "Most of them act so naturally that people won't believe they can't see. A pal of mine went into an eye clinic and strode across to an empty seat. The receptionist, on being informed that he was registered blind, said to him sarcastically 'There doesn't seem much wrong with your eyes'. 'There's not', replied my friend. 'They're both best quality glass.'

"Of course", said the Hatter after a pause, "the present system makes people blinder than they really are!"

"Goodness gracious! How can that be?" cried Alice.

### **Totally Blind?**

"Well, you see, the man in the street naturally enough expects the legally blind to be totally blind, and there's no changing him. The result is that decent honest people with a glimmer of sight often feel like frauds when they're put on the register. They don't feel blind. Their bit of residual vision is full sight to them. When they make the best use of it after being put on the blind register, a good deal of nudge-nudge wink-wink goes on. If, alternatively, to satisfy onlookers, they pretend to see less than they can, they're cheating themselves. Whatever they do they can't win", said the Hatter smiling.

"You know", he went on, "registered blind people on social security get a bit extra to pay for a little help. One old dear could hardly do a thing for herself until someone told her it was quite in order to see a bit and still get the money. After that she managed very well and even got out to do the shopping. Even in blind clubs, you'll come across someone saying something like 'Mrs Brown sees more than she ought to. I've just seen her looking in a shop window as I was coming along here.' Another snag that the sighted blind find is that their eyes

are always being tested. People dance about in front of them saying 'Can you see me?' or 'What can you make out on the telly?' "

"My word, you do make things hard for yourselves", said Alice. "Why can't a blind person be defined as 'anyone unable to see to do any work'?"

"Because", snapped the Hatter, "that's what it is, only in different words".

"Well, why can't they stick to it, and then we'd all know who and what we were talking about. And why can't the rest be called 'partially sighted' and put into groupings where they'd get all the help they needed?"

"Simply because", replied the Hatter, "when the definition was made in 1920 people with poor sight were advised not to use their eyes more than necessary, or else, like torch batteries, they'd go dimmer and dimmer."

### **Scented Garden**

"Anyway", said Alice. "I refuse to argue. I'm going to relax in your scented garden."

"Tosh. We don't like scented gardens."

"Why on earth not? It's beautiful here and the smells are gorgeous."

"That's nothing to do with it. It's the 'for the blind' bit we don't like. It smells of segregation."

"Nonsense", Alice boomed out. "Just anyone at all can walk in here, which is more than can be said for your workshops for the blind, clubs for the blind, homes for the blind . . ."

"Rubbish", shouted the Hatter. "they're formed for special reasons."

"Not always", retorted Alice. "You blind people segregate yourselves at the drop of a hat. If there's one place where you ought to be able to integrate, it's in church, and yet you have an annual service where the congregation and some of the others taking part are all blind. Instead of keeping quiet about it you broadcast it all over the country on Radio Four."

"Have a mint", said the Hatter.

"I've heard", continued Alice, "that some blind people regularly meet together just for a chat, drawn by the feeling that only blind people understand each other.



There's immediate brotherly understanding when experiences are swapped about the silly ways in which the sighted try to help."

"Ah well", said the Hatter. "That's because they don't take the trouble to find out."

"It's not their job", said Alice. "If you want to integrate it's up to you to do the explaining. I know someone who went out of her way to help a man who couldn't see. After he'd snatched her arm away, he told her to get lost or else he'd set about her with his stick. So now she gets her own back. Whenever she can she does half-nelsons on blind people and frogmarches them across roads they don't want to cross. When escorting someone she'll always say when there are steps ahead, but never whether they're up or down, and so far not once has she ever been asked. She's become so used to them not having tongues that it's a rule with her now always to ask a companion whether they take sugar in their tea. She's wicked, though, because her favourite trick is to amble off when a blind person starts talking to her at a social. Then, on the other side of the room, she'll stand with a smirk on her face watching her victim prattling away to no one."

"I do believe we've met", said the Hatter reflectively.

"If blind people are sincere in wanting to integrate, then why doesn't every organisation of and for the blind have a springboard committee?" asked Alice.

"A what?"

### Springboard Committee

"A springboard committee. It would set out to help anyone who wanted to jump back into the sighted world. Most of the members would be blind or visually handicapped, and they'd select from their number a panel of good speakers who'd give lively talks to every local organisation willing to listen. Their job would be to break down the embarrassments which the sighted experience on first meeting someone blind. They're swamped with feelings of inadequacy because they don't know what to say or do, and only the blind person can put them at their ease. Springboard members would also visit local clubs, evening institutes, etc., to investigate whether blind people too can

join in the fun and to lay on a backing-up service if needed. Segregation has been so thorough that there's an awful lot of public relations work to do if you're ever going to integrate, and only blind people can do it. How about that for a fighting speech?" said Alice.

In reply she was expecting to have a considered opinion, logical argument or at least a shout of "Rubbish!" But all she heard was the buzzing of the bees, the singing of the songbirds and the snoring of the Hatter.

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### SOUTH AFRICAN ST. DUNSTANER AS UNIVERSITY DEAN

The Council of the University of Natal has appointed, until October 1976, **Professor Kenneth H. C. McIntyre** as Dean of the Faculty of Arts. He is Head of the University's Department of History and Political Science.

Professor McIntyre was born in Bloemfontein, educated at Selbourne College, East London, and obtained the B.A. Hons. degree and the U.E.D. from Rhodes University. His academic career was interrupted by service with the Royal Natal Carbineers in World War II. He was wounded and blinded in action during the advance on Florence and spent 11 months in a British Military Hospital in Naples.

After his return to South Africa, Ken McIntyre decided to continue his academic career and, assisted by St. Dunstan's and a great deal of personal courage, attended and gained an M.A. degree from King's College, Cambridge.

In 1949 Professor McIntyre was appointed Lecturer at the University of Natal, and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1956. He was made Associate Professor of History and Political Science in 1963, becoming full Professor and Head of the Department in 1970.

He was Chairman of the University of Natal Lecturers' Association from 1964 to 1966, and was elected the first Chairman of the University Teachers' Association of South Africa in 1965. In 1967 a Carnegie Corporation of New York Travel Grant enabled him and his wife to spend three months in America and Canada and six weeks in Britain, visiting Universities.



# The Pennine Way

by Ted Jinks

About two years ago, my wife was working on a mobile snack bar, on part of the Pennine Way, and we became interested in walking this Way. (We have always walked a little.)

A year ago we set out on the Pennine Way, but we made the mistake of taking too much kit with us. So this year we set off once again, with one change of clothes, enough dehydrated food for one day, prayed for fine weather (it gets knee high in mud when it rains), and a café or two open as we passed. We took rucksacks of course, sleeping bags, and tents. No hotels for us, do it the hard way, sleep rough, and that's just what we did.

**Saturday.** We set off at 6 a.m., in a mini bus, to take us to Kirk Yetholm at approximately noon, and set off walking to our first stop; this was a mountain rescue post. Here we stayed the night.

**Sunday.** On leaving next morning at 7 a.m., there was very low cloud, but luck was with us, we had to follow the border fence that day for about 15 miles. We had a hard climb straight from the word go that morning, first to the Auchope Cairn; there were lots of rocks here and walking was very difficult. After this we climbed The Schil, which is 1,985 feet high. We climbed three more hills that day, but The Schil was the highest. Just before we reached Byrness, we had to come down a very steep place, full of boulders; it was so bad here that my son had to take my rucksack off, to get me down the rocks. Safely down, we got to Byrness, and pitched our tents, our second day done. We had walked 23 miles that day.

**Monday.** We were off again at 7 a.m.; today we are heading for Bellingham. This morning we had breakfast in the forest, and walking through the forest we saw deer, a couple of snakes and a lizard; there were also lots of grouse about, on a lot of the moors that we crossed. We got to Bellingham about 2 p.m., had a meal and decided to press on as it was still early. Finally we arrived at

Hornystead Farm; here we got permission to camp. Down to the stream we went and put up the tents, bathed our aching feet, had our dinner and got down for the night. 21 miles were behind us that day.

**Tuesday.** Up bright and early this morning we were, and set off this time for Hadrian's Wall. We arrived at the Wall and walked along it for a little while, then we walked by the side of it for a long way, till the going got very hard, then we left the Wall and went across country till we came to the *Twice Brewed*, so here we had a meal and a pint, and off we went once more, this time for Greenhead. Five was about the time we got to Greenhead, and with the Wall now well behind us we walked till we came to a farm called Baty's Shield. We were made very welcome here, the lady made us a meal, and we stayed there the night. Today we have done 24 miles.

**Wednesday.** We left the farm early this morning on our way to Alston. It was a very hot day, and we came to a river, the South Tyne, and here we had a swim, it was very cold in the water but very refreshing after the long walk; after we were rested we set off again and carried on to Alston. It was about four when we got to Alston so we pitched our tents, and got changed and went for a meal. Here we had walked 19 miles, so that was an easy day.

**Thursday.** Today we are going to Dufton. We have some climbing to do today, we have Cross Fell to get over and that is 2,930 feet, then there is Little Dun Fell, 2,761 feet, and Great Dun Fell, 2,780 feet. We got up Cross Fell all right, but as we came down there were lots and lots of rocks, big rocks, and while coming down here, I got my leg caught between some rocks, but managed to get it out with only a bruise on my shin—that was a bit of luck. We had not gone far after this when my wife pulled a leg muscle, this resulted in the lads having to carry her rucksack between them for the rest of the day. We





*The Pennine Way is no mere country ramble, as this picture shows*

had some first-aid kit with us and after using linament on it a couple of times it was all right next morning. After we had crossed these three fells we skirted Knock Fell so as not to aggravate Joan's leg any more that day. We got to Dufton about 6 p.m., camped at the farm, got milk and eggs, had our evening meal, went for a drink, but as the weather was getting a bit windy and looking like rain we got to bed early, ready for the next day. We covered 20 miles again that day.

**Friday.** The rain did not come, but the sky was over-cast and windy, so we had to wear our rain-proofs to keep the wind out. We started to climb High Cup Nick,

which is a long gradual climb going up to 1,900 feet; after this we came to Cauldron Snout, a waterfall at 1,600 feet, and going down in one big drop. My wife and son tell me they went sick when they saw where we had to go; anyway, down we had to go, and down we went. Taking my rucksack, and edging me over one and through another, we finally got to the bottom, only to find that there was Falcon Clints and Cronkly Scar to cross. Sick as parrots we set off over these huge piles of boulders, and they seemed never-ending. When we finally got to the end of these rocks we came to a farm, and from here we took the road to Langden Beck, a Youth Hostel, but this was closed so we



pushed on for Middleton-in-Teesdale. When we arrived we were just in time to get a meal before the shops closed; we also stocked up on our food supplies here. We then went to the caravan site, where we stayed the night. It cost us £1.50 here, but there was hot and cold water and showers, so that was a help. Twenty-two miles behind us again today.

**Saturday.** We left Middleton at about 10 a.m., a late start for us, but we pushed on and came to a place called God's Bridge. This is a natural bridge formed out of rocks and the stream runs under them. We had just passed these when I had a slight mishap. I stumbled over some rocks, landed on my back and skinned my knee and elbow in the process and I never said a word, not out loud anyway. We were steadily climbing again now up to 1,700 feet, and the *Tan Hill* Pub, reputed to be the highest licensed premises in the country. When we were approaching we were asked by a bloke who was running if we had seen another runner, who was trying to set up a new record for running the Pennine Way. We rested here and had a drink (it's open

here all day), and then we went on to Keld, 4½ miles away. We got there about 8 p.m., made some dinner and got an early night. The *Tan Hill* being the only pub, there was no hope of us going back there for an hour. We are keeping to our schedule nicely, we did 21 miles again today.

**Sunday.** Another early start, and a beautiful morning, just right for walking. We made good time and got to Hard Row by 12 p.m. Here we went into the *Green Dragon* and had a very good meal; mind you, after walking 12 miles anything would taste good. We finished our dinner and set off again, with 11 miles still to do. It's always said that it's a small world and when we passed the time of day with a couple and it turned out that they came from Oldham the same as us, it would seem small. We went over Great Shunner Fell today, 2,340 feet, and Ten End 1,900 feet. We camped by a river that night, and a young lad was also camped there. He really was doing it the hard way; he had no tent, just a sleeping bag and water-proof. We are getting good, we made 23 miles today.

*Joan and John prepare a meal.*







*John leads Ted along Hadrian's Wall.*

**Monday.** We got up this morning and the place was alive with midges, but our John knew of a café, in Horton-in-Ribblesdale, which was the way we were heading anyway, so we decided to leave breakfast till we got there. Five miles later and starving, we got to the café and it was closed. Not to worry, we went to the shop next door, and it was one and the same, so they opened the café and we got our breakfast, thank goodness. At this café they have a visitors' book, for the Way walkers, so we all signed it and the lady gave me a badge for the Pennine Way Club, which they are in the middle of forming. We went on our way in a much better frame of mind, already to get over Peny-Ghent which is 2,273 feet; going up was not bad, but going down was a little more difficult. In fact I was reduced to sitting on my backside and sliding down one part of the downward bit, anyway it's all part of the walk and I'm going to finish it one way or the other. No rest for the wicked—we are going up again, this time it is Fountains Fell 2,100 feet, and then we go to Malham, passing the tarn as we go. It is very nice country

round here. It has been hard going today, but we have 20 miles so we are still on time. Joan has been a bit off colour for a couple of days so her sister is picking her up tonight and she is going home. When Joan went she took with her all the surplus kit so we will be travelling light from now on.

**Tuesday.** We had a lie-in this morning as we are going to get some presents to take home. We set off at 11 a.m., and the going was good all day for climbing, so we got on very well. When we got to Gargrave we saw a barge being lifted from one lock to the other; he soon caught up with us. Then we had a meal in the village. As we set off again we passed a school, and a little girl was doing a census for the school on Pennine Way Walkers. She wanted to know what sort of shoes we were wearing and what sort of first-aid kit we carried, which way we were going, north or south, and all this type of thing. On we went then to Lothersdale where Joan was there to meet us. She put up the tent that she took with her, so we were all ready to camp for



the night. We had an hour in the pub that night, but got quite an early night. Only 17 miles done today, but we have a long day tomorrow.

**Wednesday.** When we left this morning we were travelling very light as Joan took all the kit with her but for the water bottles and rain-proofs and one rucksack. We are heading for White House at Blackstone Edge, twenty-eight miles away. We have to pass Widdon Reservoir, Charles Town and Stoodly Pike. This is a monument to commemorate the abdication of Napoleon in 1814. Now only 6 miles to go, and we will have done another day. We have just arrived at White House at 6.30 p.m.; we made very good time. Joan had not arrived with the tents so we went and had a pint while we were waiting. Joan came at 7 p.m. so we got the tents up and had a meal, and stayed the night.

**Thursday.** 7.30 a.m. and we were on our way, going over Blackstone Edge, Windy Hill, Black Moss and White Moss. We also go over Black Hill—this is just a peat hill. In wet weather you get up to your knees in mud, and very hard walking indeed. Luckily for us it is very dry at this time of crossing so it makes for good walking. We arrived at the Youth Hostel in Crowden at about 4.30 p.m., and had a meal at the cafe there. Joan had already put up the tents so we were ready for our last night under canvas, and

only one day left to go. This was one of the shortest days we had done, 18 miles.

**Friday.** The last day. We have two rough walks ahead of us today; first is Bleaklow Moor, a very narrow track, and a drop to the left and a hill to the right. Part of the path had been washed away, so that made it even worse. After this we came to Snake Road, and here the I.T.V. camera team met us to interview me on the walk that, as far as I know, no other blind man has done. As we left the cameras behind we headed for Kinder Scout which is 2,000 feet high. After crossing Kinder Scout we made our way down to Edale, and our journey's end. We were delighted to have completed the whole of the way, without too much discomfort, only a couple of blisters between us. So as the saying goes, "All's well that ends well", or "Is your journey really necessary?"

Maybe some of the other St. Dunstaners who go walking would be interested to know that on most of these paths we had to walk one behind the other, and so we took with us a long staff, about 7 feet in length, and this proved to be invaluable as it kept you walking on the right path but not too close to the person in front of you, so that you were not walking on their heels. I also carried a heavy walking stick in my other hand to act as a stabiliser when the going was rough.

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## C.N.I.B. MANAGING DIRECTOR IN ENGLAND

Mr. Ross Purse, Managing Director of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, with Mrs. Purse, visited England during the latter part of July and early August 1975. Mr. Purse is a St. Dunstaner who served with the Winnipeg Grenadiers during the Second World War. He was taken prisoner at Hong Kong and suffered malnutrition at the hands of the Japanese, as a result of which he lost his sight.

One of the principal objects of the visit was to attend the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind's celebration of its Silver Jubilee at St. James's Palace on Thursday 24th July. The previous day

Mr. and Mrs. Purse had attended the Royal National Institute for the Blind's Annual General Meeting.

On Monday 28th July Mr. and Mrs. Purse visited Ian Fraser House, where they were joined by Sir John Wilson, Director of the R.C.S.B. and Lady Wilson and Mr. A. D. Lloyds, C.B.E., F.C.A. and Mrs. Lloyds. On the evening of 29th July Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme gave a dinner party in London for our Canadian visitors. This dinner was also attended by Mr. Eric Boulter, Director General of the R.N.I.B. and Mrs. Boulter, Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary, and senior members of St. Dunstan's staff.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Thackeray described our town as "Kind, cheerful, merry Dr. Brighton", which is an apt description when one thinks of all the activities available for our interest and pleasure.

July began with a visit to the Racing Stables of Mr. Guy Harwood, where, as always, we felt we were among friends. Two new venues for the Drives were found, one being the Heathfield Wild Park. This outing was combined with a picnic lunch and was voted a great success—by those with stamina! Our other discovery was Tylden House, near Horsham, where the hospitality was both generous and warm, and there was much of interest to explore.

Our Sunday evening entertainments have been varied, comprising plays, concerts, and record programmes. Two of those most enjoyed were the presentation of stereo music by Tom Eales, who invariably delights the ear, and a programme of quadrophonic sound presented by our civilian blind friend, Mr. Victor Henry. He is the Assistant Area Commissioner of Sea-Scouts in the county, and in addition does an enormous amount of entertaining with his highly complicated recording equipment. As Mrs. Margaret Stanway pointed out, in her charming vote of thanks, we appreciate the time and trouble he took to give us such an enjoyable evening. Mr. Henry and his assistants, John and David, intrigued us with clever sound effects; they included West Indian rhythms which had many of us swaying and clicking our fingers, and a most realistic recording of a Munich Beer Festival, complete with horses clip-clopping along, jingling their harness as they pulled the carts loaded with beer-barrels. The interval which followed this colourful scene produced alas! not beer, but coffee. During the second half of the programme we were diverted by the antics of a sea-gull, which strutted up and down the window ledge, obviously longing to join the party.

During Sussex Fortnight we were inundated with keen racegoers, who seemed possessed of limited luck, but limitless energy. (Where's the Phyllo-

san?). To them we dedicate this "Punter's Lament":

We sing of Brighton, Fontwell Park,  
Of Goodwood—(you can't whack it)—  
Though you may *think* they're far apart,  
They're all on Costa Packet!

To that we might add "The Song of the Weary V.A.D.":

Oh please don't place *another* bet, my  
feet and head are aching!

Oh well, as it's the final Race, and your  
last pound you're staking—

I'll line up just this one more time and  
dream (t'will happen never),

Of doing nothing all the time—  
FOREVER AND FOREVER.

To return to less active pursuits, we report that the Summer Show continued at the Dome—after so many weeks we ran out of Escorts who had not seen it. Indeed, some of them visited the show more than once, in answer to our earnest pleas, which perhaps proved both their dedication and their fortitude.

The Deaf Reunion was held in August, and an account of it will appear next month. It was a happy weekend and we were blessed with good company and good weather.

The month ended with the August Bank Holiday revels; on the Saturday the Whist Drive and Domino Tournament were held, and the winners were as follows:

## WHIST

### *Ladies*

**1st Prize**     **Matron** (honestly!)

**2nd Prize**     Mrs. Exley

**3rd Prize**     Mrs. Dodgson

### *Gentlemen*

**1st Prize**     **A. Dodgson**

**2nd Prize**     R. Stanners

**3rd Prize**     M. Tybinski

Writing as one whose only card game is "Snap", our Whist and Bridge-playing St. Dunstaners evoke much admiration, for they play with such speed and feats of memory.

The winners of the Domino Tournament are asked to accept our congratulations,



and also our apologies, for we have mislaid the details. So sorry!

On Bank Holiday Monday, we held our Dance, and prizes were given for the best representations of "Book Titles". Our judge was the well-known local author and biographer, Mr. Henry Blyth, who was accompanied by Mrs. Dacre, which gave us great pleasure. Mr. Blyth found it extremely difficult to make a decision, for so many of the entries were witty and clever. Eventually, and amid much merriment, the winners were chosen and the prizes awarded as follows:

#### *Ladies*

Mrs. Brenda Bates—"Goldfinger".

Miss Barbara Bell—"Pickwick Papers".

Miss Sally Falcon, V.A.D.—"Under Milk Wood".

#### *Gentlemen*

E. Carpenter—"Wisden's book of Cricket" (sub-titled "In Mourning for the Ashes").

E. Corbettis—"Detective in Silk Drawers".

A. Robinson—"Vanity Fair".

We must confess that Manny Corbettis in pale yellow silk bloomers, together with a "Sherlock Holmes" deer-stalker hat, was quite a sight to behold, while Micky Robinson in a blond wig, blue satin evening dress and handbag, the whole tastefully set off with black socks and beetle-crusher shoes, had us rolling in the aisles, as he peered into a hand-mirror, simpering like an elderly Shirley Temple. It really was quite an evening.

And so August ended—the sun still shining benignly on us. Whatever financial disasters lurk around the corner, we have certainly had a wonderful Summer, with much for which to be grateful.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Sunday 5th October

**Argus Ladies Choir.** Concert in the Lounge, 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 12th October

**Mr. T. Eales presents:**

"Those wonderful shows", 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 19th October

**Brighton Tape Recording Club concert,** 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 26th October

**Mr. T. Eales presents**

"Mexican Trip and others", 7.30 p.m.

St. Dunstaners, their wives and escorts will be most welcome at these concerts.

## **BRIDGE NOTES**

### **LONDON**

**The Fifth Individual Competition** of the London Section was held on Saturday 26th July:

#### **Results**

W. Allen and F. Dickerson	72
A. Caldwell and H. King	69
J. Lynch and P. Nuyens	57
H. Meleson and Partner	57

**The Sixth Individual Competition** was held on Saturday 2nd August.

#### **Results**

J. Lynch and W. Allen	68
W. Miller and H. Meleson	62
P. Nuyens and A. Caldwell	60
R. Evans and J. Huk	55
F. Dickerson and J. Majchrowicz	55

**The Seventh Individual Competition** was held on Saturday, 6th September.

#### **Results**

J. Huk and Partner	70
W. Miller and J. Majchrowicz	64
Miss Vera Kemmish and W. Allen	50
J. Lynch and A. Caldwell	49

**The best five results to date** are as follows:

W. Allen	353
J. Huk	339
P. Nuyens	333
W. Miller	329
F. Dickerson	324
J. Lynch	315
A. Caldwell	305
H. Meleson	304
Miss Vera Kemmish	291
J. Padley (after 4 games)	253
R. Evans (after 2 games)	102
H. King (after 1 game)	69

**H. MELESON**  
*Bridge Secretary*

### **BRIGHTON**

With the re-opening of Ovingdean, we were able to hold our July duplicate individual match in the annex to Ian Fraser House, on Saturday 12th July; the results of this match appear elsewhere.

On the following Saturday, 19th July, we held a bridge drive, again in the annex. The attendance for this was a little disappointing because of holiday and



family commitments. Once again Mr. Bob Goodlad officiated, in addition to partnering a St. Dunstaner. Mr. W. Scott of Rottingdean called for a minute's silence in memory of our recently departed friend, Mr. Frank Rhodes.

The catering staff of Ian Fraser House did us proud for teas, and after a short break for refreshments play was resumed.

Prizewinners were as follows:

# 1 Bob Fullard & Mrs. V. McPherson

2 Bill Scott & Mr. R. Goodlad

3 Sam Webster & Mrs. Gover

Miss J. M. Allison, Assistant Matron of Ian Fraser House, very kindly came along to present the prizes.

**The Seventh Individual Competition** of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday 12th July; results were as follows:

S. Webster and R. Fullard	68
C. Walters and A. Dodgson	65
W. Lethbridge and R. Goding	63
R. Bickley and F. Griffiee	62
W. Scott and J. Whitcombe	61
W. Claydon and J. Simmons	59

**The Eighth Individual Competition** of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday 6th September; results were as follows:

C. Walters and S. Webster	79
F. Griffiee and P. McCormack	73
W. Claydon and A. Dodgson	64
R. Goding and A. Smith	62
R. Fullard and M. Clements	59
W. Burnett and W. Lethbridge	58
R. Bickley and J. Simmons	55
W. Scott and W. Phillips	54

# Best Five results to date

F. Griffiee	375
S. Webster	358
W. Lethbridge	353
J. Simmons	350
R. Fullard	348
C. Walters	343
M. Clements	331
R. Goding	328
W. Scott and R. Bickley	323
W. Claydon	317
A. Dodgson	316
J. Whitcombe	304
W. Burnett	289
A. Smith	277
P. McCormack (after 2 games)	135

R. FULLARD

# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 204*

## I Stayed in China

by William G. Sewell

*Read by Garard Green*

*Reading Time 9 hours*

After liberation from a Japanese internment camp in 1945, the writer was asked by the authorities to return to the provincial Chinese university where he had been Head of the Chemistry Department before the war.

He found things terribly changed. Corruption was widespread, the people were hungry, starving even. Rocketing inflation had pushed up rice prices to an astronomical figure. Civil war raged in the neighbouring province. Students who attempted to protest to the local military commander were flogged or imprisoned.

With the victory of Mao Tse-tung, the Communist troops entered the university town. They were kind, courteous and very helpful. They paid for the goods they needed—unlike the Nationalists who merely took as a right.

Prices began to fall dramatically. There was a new spirit of pride and decency abroad—even at the university the students no longer cheated at exams.

Professor Sewell became totally involved in the New China. He elected to take a massive cut in salary and take only "the rate for the job"—previously his salary had been paid from the U.K., the University being a British religious foundation. He joined a Trade Union and wore the "boiler-suit" of the worker. He became an enthusiastic devotee of the "criticism" cult. He, a foreigner, felt proud and honoured to be allowed to participate in this Oriental Alice in Wonderland world.

Finally, however, the time came when he knew that if he didn't leave China then, he never would go.

He was granted the necessary permission to leave the country and returned to England and his wife and family.

I found this a most absorbing book written objectively and from a very different standpoint from that which Westerners normally regard the workings of the Communist régime in China.



*Cat. No. 1132*

**Hancock**

By Freddie Hancock and David Nathan

*Read by Philip Treleaven*

*Reading Time 8 hours*

This is one of the most terrible books I have ever read—terrible in the sense that it is a stark, brutally frank record of the anguish, despair and final degradation of a human being.

His rapid rise to stardom was almost entirely due to Galton and Simpson, whose brilliance created Anthony Aloysius St. John Hancock, the pompous and inept little man for whom nothing ever quite came off.

Hancock's radio and TV ratings were phenomenal. He was the first artist on TV to earn £1,000 for a half-hour programme. Universally loved, his appearance in the street literally stopped the traffic.

But the pressures began to mount. He broke with Galton and Simpson, believing he was now big enough to do without them. He couldn't. His drinking became heavier and soon uncontrollable.

In a despairing bid to find himself and his lost genius, he went to Australia. The project was doomed from the start. He was never sober, couldn't remember his lines, his immaculate timing was gone.

Finally, the comedian who had sought the ultimate in clowning, the man who had read Russel, Kant and Spinoza in his vain search for Truth, found the only answer left to him—vodka and barbiturates.

This is a sad story of human frailty. In parts it is so shocking that the catalogue entry bears the usual warning, "Parts of this book . . ." etc.

*Cat. No. 968*

**On Her Majesty's Secret Service**

by Ian Fleming

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading Time 9¼ hours*

Being one of that tiny minority who had never read a James Bond book, I decided it was high time to rectify that omission.

Having read this one, I suspect that the devotees of the cult would probably describe it as "run-of-the-mill".

James is what we have now come to recognise as the ordinary normal everyday

super-agent. He is physically tough and virtually bullet-proof. As a lady's man he beats Casanova and Don Juan to a fare-thee-well. He is (of course) a lethal marksman with any weapon.

He is at home in every kind of society—knocking back exotic booze with the jet-set, or delivering karate chops to the unhallowed necks of the ungodly.

In this book the arch-baddies are firmly ensconced on—of all places—an Alp. To winkle them out, J.B. employs a helicopter and a considerable amount of unbridled violence. There is a death-defying ski-race and the usual assorted car-chases. James wins the day, defeats the baddies' evil schemes—and incidentally saves old England from a fate worse than roaring inflation.

To me, the oddest thing about the James Bond saga is the name, which Fleming took from the spine of a book. For the real-life James Bond was a botanist who wrote learned (and possibly very dull) books on wild flowers!

*Cat. No. 1068*

**Order To View**

by René Cutforth

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading Time 8½ hours*

This is not, the author points out, an attempt at an autobiography—more a random collection of reminiscences, observations and experiences culled from a full and busy life.

During the war he found little time for experiments in original living, for he was a P.O.W., first in Italy, which he didn't seem to mind (" . . . the Italians are so civilised . . .") and later in Germany, which he hated.

After the war he more or less drifted into the B.B.C. where he was a self-confessed failure. But instead of sacking him they made him a reporter.

He had found his métier. He roamed the world in search of stories. He went to Korea. He waited for days in the Himalayas to interview the fleeing Dalai Lama, sent back reports from the shattered remains of Agadir. But the book is by no means all tragedy and frustrations. The author records a few hilarious adventures which only happen to people like René Cutforth.



# Daedalus '75

## Naval Camp at Lee-on-Solent Camp

The term "camp" is something of a stigma carried over from the 1940's. Today the 50 St. Dunstaners who attend Lee are housed in the Petty Officers' quarters at *H.M.S. Daedalus*, the Fleet Air Arm shore establishment. It has cabins for four persons, a dining room that offers a wide choice of food at all meals, a very spacious lounge, TV rooms, billiards room and a large bar, and many other amenities combining to form a holiday hotel worth recommendation.

Our hosts are the Captain, Commander and Ship's Company. The Field Gun Crew that recently took part in the Royal Tournament at London's Olympia, a most wonderful set of fellows, become our "guide dogs" and close companions for the week. With the establishment staff, members of former gun crews and the many friends that St. Dunstaners have made over many years strive to grant our every wish, and give us a holiday that we shall never forget.

### C.P.O.'s Evening

Most of us had arrived in time for supper on Friday 15th August, and we assembled later in the lounge to hear what "goodies" had been arranged for us in the week ahead. Sailing, fishing, gliding, swimming, dances and trips on the Hovercraft, and to the Isle of Wight and many other things were all lined up, weather permitting. An hour later, and we were enjoying a social evening in the Chief Petty Officers' Mess, meeting old friends and making new ones, laughing and joking, singing and chatting and indulging in the poison of our choice. Dressed in mufti, and joining in the joviality like everyone else, I met the commanding officer of the *Daedalus*, Captain David Robotham, the liaison officer Lieut. Peter Grigsby and the Gun Crew Officer Lieut. Don Ross who was also a "guide dog". I met also the portly President of the Chiefs' Mess, Fleet Chief Alf Martin, a wonderful character, full of

feeling and understanding for St. Dunstaners, because his grandfather was a St. Dunstaner.

Saturday morning was bright and sunny and the Walking Race was arranged for 10 o'clock. No compulsion here, if you wanted to join in the organised competitions, then you took part in the once-round-the-airfield walk, a distance of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Bill Harris is a master at organising these handicap races, but at Lee anything can happen, and usually does. The afternoon was a "do as you like" session, so some of us sunbathed on the lawn and listened to the Test Match, whilst others went walking or relaxed in their cabins. In the evening we had a most enjoyable Grand Ball in the large hall of the Chiefs' Mess.

Sunday was unfortunately wet. Church services were held, and the Rev. Frank Spurway filled the tiny C. of E. church to the gunnels with his very popular brand of service, specially arranged for St. Dunstaners.

After church we made our way to the Ward Room for coffee, and then a party in the Officers' Club. This is the officers' direct contribution to our entertainment, and the free bar must have cost them a small fortune.

The gliding arranged for the afternoon was cancelled due to adverse weather, but the Chiefs surprised us in the evening by arranging for a group called "The Sinclairs" to play in the dance hall. We were caught out, unaware of their appearance, but the sailors' wives and girl-friends were not, for they turned out in full strength, and a really great evening was had by all.

### Good Start to the Week

The sun came out again on Monday and after breakfast we all assembled on the lawn to pose for the group photograph, after which we split into two parties, one going fishing and the rest for a cruise on the Solent and visit to the



Isle of Wight, where, with our packed lunches and three hours to spend in Cowes, we were free to do as we liked. In the evening we enjoyed the marvellous Dennis Deacon Memorial concert, being entertained by Les Adams, with his endless stream of side-splitting jokes, and the lovely voices of soprano Joy Evans and tenor John Ford.

On Tuesday morning, we had the second of our organised competitions, the swimming races. For these, transport took us to *H.M.S. Vincent*, where there is a very nice, competition-size pool. A free-and-easy afternoon was followed by a visit to the Eagle Club in the evening. The Eagle Club is the ratings' own club, and they provide an evening's entertainment by putting on a dance, usually discotheque, with drinks and refreshments too, but this year they, too, had hired a very good group, with an electric organ as the centre piece, which they were kind enough to let St. Dunstan Alan Mitchell play during the interval. Not as noisy as a disco, this was an excellent gesture by the ratings. The closure of the Eagle Club is strictly to time, so P.O. Joe Banner, threw out an open invitation to go to the P.O.s mess, where he had two barrels of bitter to dispose of quickly, free.

### **Titchfield Dance**

The weather on Wednesday was somewhat indifferent, but we went ahead with the planned repeat of Monday's fishing and Solent trips. The sea was rather choppy, and the spray kept blowing over us, but all being good sailors we really enjoyed ourselves. Wednesday evening was one of the highlights of our holiday, the Titchfield Dance. Colonel Clare is the custodian of the superbly kept local community centre, in which he allows the "Ladies of Titchfield" to hold this dance in our honour. A most delightful occasion which we all appreciate very much. As a token of our thanks a bouquet of flowers was presented to the Chairwoman of the Committee of the Titchfield Ladies, but bouquets for all would be more appropriate.

Fortunately the sun came out again on Thursday, for this was competition III day. First a trip on the Solent in the Hovercraft, and then down to the airfield for "The Sports". Organised and run by P.T.I. Tony

Witham, the sports went like clockwork. Some secret training had clearly taken place, as the results show. A Braille car rally organised by Sheila McLeod and Ben Mills was held on Thursday evening. There were 16 entries and the drive took an hour. Competitors had eight questions to answer.

In the evening we had the prize-giving for the sports, the walk and the swimming events, and this was followed with a speech by Mr. Wills, who had joined us earlier in the day, in which he expressed St. Dunstan's thanks to the establishment of *H.M.S. Daedalus*, for taking such a wonderful interest in St. D's. Trevor Tatchell then acted as spokesman for the St. Dunstaners and with his delightful Welsh wit and verbosity, gave us an opportunity to express our thanks to Capt. Robotham and Commander Croft for granting us the use of such wonderful amenities, to the gun crew for their devotion as "guide dogs", and in particular to No. 1 Trainer George Delaney and No. 2 Trainer Alan Price, who had quietly and most efficiently organised and kept the holiday going with a swing, and to P.T.I. Tony Witham, who besides looking after the sporting side of things was always available to give a "physical jerk" to anyone in need of one. He also expressed our profound gratitude to our own organising committee, notably Mrs. Spurway and her daughter Jandy Paton, Miss Elspeth Grant, Mrs. Sheila McLeod and Miss Kath Riley and the many others who had arranged our holiday for us. We heartily endorsed every word and name that Trevor mentioned. Capt. Robotham reciprocated with equal sincerity, and P.T.I. Tony Witham responded on behalf of the non-commissioned ranks.

### **A Hectic Finish**

We still had Friday, our last full day, to come. The fishermen still had lines to cast, and soon after breakfast they put out to sea again, under the expert eye of Mr. Bill Reid, who had arranged all the fishing trips, determined to make their last day's catch a good one. For the rest of us, it was an opportunity to buy presents, or start our packing.

In the afternoon there was a Bridge match between the Navy and St. Dunstan's, which was won by St. Dunstan's



who netted 4,410 points over 16 boards. I must say in all fairness that the Navy team of four were not used to matchplay Bridge.

The last night dance was a terrific climax to a wonderful week, with a band for the first half of the evening and a group for the second; we had non-stop entertainment right through to 1 o'clock in the morning.

Then came Saturday morning, all too soon. After breakfast the first party started to depart for Southampton Station, followed a few minutes later by the Brighton area coach, and then the London coach. A sad occasion, but all good things must come to an end, and so it was with our holiday at Lee-on-Solent.

Did the Gun Crew give us a holiday to remember? You bet they did.

Thanks, fellows.

BILL MILLER

## DETAILED RESULTS

### Field Sports Results

#### *Victor Ludorum Cup*

T. Tatchell

#### *Winning Team*

Stan Southall  
Robert Pringle  
Joe Humphrey  
Arthur Carter  
Douglas Howard  
Ernie Cookson  
Trevor Tatchell

#### *Individual Events*

Sprint R. Peart and T. Parkinson  
joint winners 12 mins. 2 secs.  
Discus T. Tatchell 69' 0½"  
Sling Ball T. Tatchell 80' 0½"  
Javelin T. Parkinson 82' 2"  
Shot T. Tatchell 20' 9"  
Broad Jump J. Cope 7' 0"  
Goal Kicking T. Parkinson 3 goals

### Results of the Camp Car Rally

1st Mickie Burns Driver Charles Baker  
Observer Miss Elspeth Grant  
2nd Bob Young Driver Cornel Woods  
Observer Mrs. Woods

### Swimming and Diving Results

#### *Breast Stroke T.B.*

2 lengths of bath R. Peart 53.8 secs.

#### *Breast Stroke S.S.*

W. Miller 65.0 secs.

#### *Free Style T.B.*

1 length of bath R. Peart 17.1 secs.

#### *Free Style S.S.*

W. Miller 22.6 secs.

#### *Back Stroke T.B.*

R. Peart 30.3 secs.

#### *Back Stroke S.S.*

W. Miller 27.0 secs.

#### *Plunge*

R. Pringle 36 ft. 2 in.

#### *Plates*

R. Peart 6 plates

#### *Victor Ludorum Cup*

R. Peart

### Results of the 2½ Mile Walk

Order of Finish	Handicap				Actual	
	Time		Allowance		Time	
	M	S	M	S	M	S
1 D. Howard	17	58	14	00	31	58
2 A. Carter	20	36	7	00	27	36
3 W. Scott	21	05	13	00	34	05
4 H. Harding	22	50	14	00	36	50
5 R. Pringle	23	05	5	00	28	05
6 S. Southall	23	14	10	00	33	14
7 R. Young	23	27	3	00	26	27
8 C. Stafford	23	46	3	00	26	46
9 W. Miller	23	52	none		23	52
10 T. Tatchell	24	12	3	30	27	42
11 J. Cope	24	19	1	50	26	09
12 J. Wright	24	42	3	30	28	12
13 M. Burns	24	45	4	00	28	45
14 E. Cookson	24	46	13	25	38	11
15 P. Spencer	24	52	5	30	30	22
16 L. Webber	25	50	7	15	33	05
17 R. Peart	28	39	3	40	32	19
18 T. Parkinson	28	39	4	00	32	09
Dennis Deacon Veterans' Cup					— R. Young	
Bridget Talbot Novices' Cup					— H. Harding	
Fastest Loser's Cup					— W. Miller	

### STOKE MANDEVILLE

Friday October 25th to Sunday October 27th. I think we have notified everybody. Anyone who wants to come and has not heard please let me know *at once*.

A. Spurway  
Mount House  
Halse, Taunton, Somerset

### WALKERS PLEASE NOTE

#### St. Dunstan's 1975/76 Events

#### *Ewell*

Saturday 18th October 1½ miles  
15th November 3 miles  
20th December 4½ miles  
31st January 6 miles  
21st February 7 miles  
13th March 7 miles





# IT STRIKES ME

by  
Magog

## First Gala Queen

St. Dunstaner **Bernard Inman** of Saltdean was a proud man on Saturday 19th July—he's certainly a lucky one! His wife Marie opened Saltdean Community Association's Gala fete, in her rôle as the Association's first Gala Queen. Bernard and Marie recently moved to the area from Elstree, and from the radiant smiles of Marie and the Committee members pictured at the Tombola stand, they seem to be fully integrated into local life!

Rained from the Oval, the fête took place in the Community Hall and a thousand people thronged there during the day. The event was part of a Gala

*Gala Queen Marie Inman.*



Week organised in aid of the Saltdean Housing Project for the Elderly, and the Saltdean Nautical Training Corps Training Ship "Enterprise". Understandably in the wet circumstances, the takings of £300 were down by £150 compared with last year's, but the two organisations are doubtless appreciative of the officers' efforts in transferring the show from its original setting at short notice! Moulsecomb Drum and Pipe Band and members of N.T.C. T.S. "Nautilus" braved the rain to give short spells of music in front of the Hall. Because of the wet weather the children's outdoor attractions had to be curtailed to roundabouts, and a shortened railway track run by the Polegate and District Model Engineering Club. But this sudden rain in our so far hot, dry summer did not dampen the spirits too badly, it seems!

## Australian Visit

"Robbie", our St. Dunstaner **J. K. Robson**, wrote to me recently: "I am back in the quiet of my home after spending a very happy four months in Australia. The main reason for my long journey was to visit my only daughter, Janet, who when with Voluntary Service Overseas and teaching at a remote Mission School in Papua met a young Australian Patrol Officer; some time later they were married in Port Moresby, New Guinea. Just over a year ago they returned to Australia where they have settled down to their new life.

I am sure you will be pleased to hear of the kindness, hospitality and generosity given to us (Janet and family included) by St. Dunstaners in Queensland and Victoria."

Robbie goes on to mention some of these St. Dunstaners: in Brisbane, **Malcolm Brice** and his wife Vera, who entertained him and showed him their part of Australia for two weeks: **Ted Blackmore**, who has recovered from the Brisbane floods and whose business is succeeding; **Colin Johnston** and his wife Elizabeth who held a party for Robbie in Melbourne, where he met **Bob and Bonnie Gray**, **Eric Hailes** who was trained as a piano tuner and now manages Brash & Sutton, the largest musical and piano retailers in the State of Victoria,





*Good wishes from officials as Harry Foster and escort set out on their ten-mile Pooltrek.*

with his wife Marion; **Pat Longden** and his wife Joy, who are coming to the U.K. near the end of this year. At a similar gathering later he met Miss Ruth Scadden, formerly a Braille teacher at Church Stretton. She was in charge of the weaving shop at Ovingdean, and Robbie's last tuition from her was in 1951 just before she left for Australia. "Now she lives at 2 Miller Street, Highett, Victoria 3190, and asked to be remembered to all St. Dunstaners who know her. She sends regards and best wishes to friends and ex-colleagues."

Robbie finishes by commenting that "I'm an old sailor, better at using a marlin spike than a typewriter, but I told the many friends I met and made 'down-under' I would get in touch with you to pass on their good wishes." I think he has done so to good effect.

## **Pooltrek**

Ian Fraser House's staff and splendid new swimming pool contributed to the success of Harry Foster, a St. Dunstaner physiotherapist at Farnham Hospital, in walking ten sponsored miles in Surrey recently. The walk was in aid of funds to build a pool, part of a proposed £60,000 Hydro-

therapy Unit at the new Frimley Park District General Hospital.

Budget-conscious as everyone else, the Hospital's District Management Team felt the new Unit did not top their list of priorities; so the Hospital authorities decided to try and convince the D.M.T., by evidence of public support.

To lay the foundation stone for the project, metaphorically, they decided on a publicity-orientated (and lucrative!) programme of simultaneous sponsored walks, code named Pooltrek. At 2 p.m. on Saturday 12th July the walkers set out from Frimley Park, Fleet and Farnham Hospitals and from Aldershot Park and Horley Lane, Farnborough, and by devious routes and by-roads they converged at 5 p.m. on Farnborough Technical College. Their Trek has so far clocked up well over £4,500 and donations are still coming in. A good effort!

Harry's contribution, earned by his ten-mile walk, was over £100; he feels that the V.A.D.'s and volunteer walkers at Ian Fraser House should take a lot of the credit. He went there for a fortnight's "training" prior to Pooltrek—swam before breakfast, walked each morning and finished the afternoon in the pool.



## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. John Barlow* of Sheffield, Yorkshire, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Denise, was married to Mr. David John Evans on 2nd August at St. Matthias Church, Stocksbridge, near Sheffield.

*Mr. and Mrs. Donald Groves* of Thorpe Bay, Southend on Sea, Essex, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Peter, with Miss Janet Head of Chingford on 23rd August.

*Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hollamby* of Oldham, Lancs, are pleased to announce that their son Stephen was married to Miss Susan Royle on 16th August 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lawton* of Edgware, Middlesex, are pleased to announce the marriage of their only son, Dennis, to Miss Doreen Isaac on 12th July 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Mead* of Rothwell, Northants., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Eileen with Steven Pole at Rothwell Parish Church on 30th August 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Tom Taylor* of Preston, Lancashire, are pleased to announce that their son Paul was married to Miss Rosemary Lindsay at Brighton Road Methodist Church, Dublin, on 16th August 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tibbit* of Wimbledon, Surrey, are pleased to announce that their son David was married to Miss Janet Emerson on 6th September 1975.

Mrs. A. M. Robinson of Rothesay, Isle of Bute, widow of the late "Tex" (Leslie) Robinson is pleased to announce the marriage of her son Derek to Miss Margaret Porter on 9th August 1975 at Dalry, near Ayrshire.

Our congratulations are offered to *Stanley A. Wilkins* of Brighton, who was married to Mrs. Margaret Mary Dykes on 30th August at Brighton Registry Office.

## Silver Weddings

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dow* of Chessington, Surrey, on their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 27th May 1975, which they celebrated with an enjoyable party at a local hotel.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hopkins* of Cardiff, Glam., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 4th August 1975.

## Ruby Wedding

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Palfrey* of Wimborne, Dorset, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 24th August 1975.

## Golden Weddings

We warmly congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas Hermitage* of Northfleet, Kent, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 28th June 1975.

We warmly congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Roland E. Naman* of Polegate, Sussex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 16th September 1975.

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ross* of Liss Forest, Hants., on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 6th August 1975.

## Diamond Wedding

We offer our warmest congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Southgate* of Chelsea, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 8th August 1975.

## Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

Mrs. Rose Culshaw, of Peacehaven, Sussex, widow of the late *Joseph William Culshaw*, whose daughter-in-law and son Peter had a daughter, Stacey Rebecca, on 31st August.

*Mr. and Mrs. Brian Jubb* of Orpington, Kent, on the birth of their first grandchild on 15th July 1975; a son, Lawrence, for their daughter Denise and son-in-law Colin Barber.



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*Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Claude Galway* of Sandbach, Cheshire, whose grand-daughter, Penny, was born on 6th May 1975 to their daughter Jane and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Stanley J. Fowler* of Beeston, Nottingham, on the birth of a grand-daughter on 11th July 1975; a third daughter, Kelly, for their daughter, Yvonne.

*Mr. and Mrs. Winston Holmes* of Hove, Sussex, whose daughter-in-law Barbara and son David had a son, Paul Andrew Holmes, on 12th January 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Roland Pilon* of Bodenham, Herefordshire, whose third grand-child, Justin, was born to their daughter Mrs. Jeanne Bond on 8th August.

## **Great Grandparents**

### **We congratulate:**

*Lady Fraser* on the birth of her fourth great-grandchild; *Alastair Robert McDonald*, born on 31st August to her grand-daughter-in-law Kate and grand-son Neil McDonald.

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Kirk* of Lancing, Sussex, on the birth on 30th June 1975 of another great grand-daughter. The baby, Celeste Suzette George, was born in East Charleston, USA while Mr. and Mrs. Kirk were visiting America and Canada, where they were reunited with their two daughters and other members of the family.

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## **NINETIETH BIRTHDAY**

*Geoffrey Bowen* celebrated his ninetieth birthday on 29th August 1975, and we offer him our congratulations. Although illness prevented him from joining his friends, they shared with him the cake prepared by Matron Hallett in honour of the occasion. As we go to press we learn that he is making good progress, and we send him our best wishes for the coming year.

## **Examination and Career Successes**

### **We offer our congratulations to:**

Kathleen O'Reilly, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Reilly* of Blackburn, who has recently obtained a Degree in Social Services from Manchester Polytechnic.

David Tibbit, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tibbit* of Wimbledon, Surrey, who has passed Part II of the R.I.C.S. Quantity Surveying Section examinations.

*Mr. Tom Taylor* of Leyland, Preston, Lancs., who has been awarded the degree of B.A. (Open) after studying with the Open University.

Peter Turner, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Turner* of Skipton, Yorkshire, who has gained a B.Sc. degree.

*Alexander Scott* of Belfast reports that he is enjoying working as a member of the Committee for North West Belfast, on the Eastern Health and Social Services Board. The area covers a population of 30,000, which includes 2,000 blind persons.

The Deputy Mayor of Doncaster presented *Arthur Simpson* with a set of luggage and a stainless steel goblet on 24th July 1975, to mark Arthur's twenty-seven years of service with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council in their Parks and Cemeteries Department.

*Mr. Sidney Jones* of Manchester, who is to study the Open University Social Science Foundation Course commencing in February 1976. He has recently obtained a grade A 'O' level G.C.E. pass in British Economic and Social History.

*Mr. John Windsor*, of Brentwood Bay, British Columbia, who has earned his Master's Degree at the University of Victoria. His subject is Canadian History and he wrote his thesis on a Red Indian subject, the downfall of Huronia under Iroquois attack between 1646 and 1650, which certainly seems a long way away from Church Stretton in 1944/45!



### **Professor Alan Milne, Ph.D., B.Sc.**

Many congratulations to *Professor Alan Milne, Ph.D., B.Sc.*, Second War St. Dunstan, who has held academic appointments at Queen's University, Belfast, for many years, on his appointment to the Chair of Political Theory and Institutions at the University of Durham from the 1st January, 1976. This means that he will be Head of the Political Science Department and we all wish Alan and Anita the best of good luck for their move in the New Year.

### **ST. DUNSTANERS IN CHURCH SERVICE BROADCASTS**

Two St. Dunstaners took an active part in Church services broadcast by the BBC on Sunday 7th September. Michael Tetley introduced the annual service for the blind from St. Albans Abbey, Radio 4, and Tom Taylor spoke in the People's Service on Radio 2.

### **Deaths**

#### **We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Frank L'Estrange Fawcett*, of Stowmarket, Suffolk, on the death of his wife on the 25th August, 1975. Phil Fawcett had had poor health for some years, but was always wonderfully cheerful and courageous.

*Francis David Howe* of Taunton, Somerset, whose younger brother, Thomas Howe, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, died in January 1975.

*Ronald Stanners* of High Wycombe, Bucks, whose wife Emily died on 21st July 1975 in hospital. They attended the London Reunion on 14th June, shortly before Mrs. Stanners became ill. She leaves two sons and two daughters, married with families.

*Miss Vera Kemmish* of London, E.10, whose brother John died on 31st July 1975.

## **In Memory**

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**It is with great regret that we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

### **Henry William Bland. 1st Northamptonshire Regiment**

Henry William Bland died at Pearson House on 25th June 1975, aged 78.

He was wounded in 1917, but worked in the shoe manufacturing trade until his sight failed completely in 1954 and he came to St. Dunstan's. He undertook hobby training, and continued to live in his home in Kettering until in 1956 he became a permanent resident at Brighton. He enjoyed returning to Kettering for occasional holidays with relatives until ill-health prevented this, when he took pleasure in his brother Albert's visits to Brighton.

He leaves six children, and his brother Albert Bland.

### **Ernest Harry Budd. Royal West Kent Regiment and Bedfordshire Regiment.**

Ernest Budd of London S.E.20 died on 11 July 1975 while on an extended convalescent stay at Pearson House. He was 80 years of age.

Ernest served in the First World War as a Private in the Royal West Kent Regiment, and was transferred to the Bedfordshire Regiment after

being wounded in the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

He leaves a stepson, Mr. G. Aldred.

### **Robert Chandler. 2nd Inniskilling Fusiliers**

Robert Chandler of Richmond, North Yorkshire, died on 9th August at Richmond Hospital, aged 85 years.

During the First World War he lost his sight through mustard gas poisoning, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1949, after his retirement. He was trained to do string bag making, and this occupied his spare time for several years. He enjoyed quiet family life with his family and friends, and was always interested in the activities of his many grandchildren and great grandchildren. He showed great fortitude in the face of ill health, and died three days after his 65th wedding anniversary.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Isobel Chandler, and family.

### **William Henry Dudley. 24th London Regiment and R.A.M.C.**

William Henry Dudley of Horley, Surrey, died on 15th July 1975 aged 88.



During the First World War he served with the 24th London Regiment and later with the R.A.M.C.

He and his widow, Mrs. Alice Dudley, celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary earlier this year. He also leaves two daughters, Mrs. Doris Davis and Miss Hilda Dudley, and a son, Mr. Cyril Dudley.

**Reginald George Field, D.C.M. *Royal Fusiliers.***

Reginald George Field of Potters Bar, Middlesex, died on 20th July 1975, at the age of 78.

He served as a Corporal with the Royal Fusiliers during the First World War, and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in action.

Reginald was a keen gardener and greenhouse man, and also undertook joinery work for the St. Dunstan's Stores.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Grace Field, and two sons, married with families; George Leonard Field and John Anthony Field.

**William Edward Flowers. *R.A.O.C.***

William Edward Flowers of Sheldon, Birmingham, died on 13th August at the age of 73, in the Royal Sussex Hospital.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1950 after losing his sight while a prisoner-of-war in Singapore in World War Two. His hobbies were handicraft work, and his garden and greenhouse from which he derived much pleasure. Despite ill health in recent years he enjoyed holidays at Brighton, and attended the Birmingham Reunions. He was taken ill and admitted to hospital after arriving at Ovingdean on 2 August.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Adeline Flowers, and son Donald and his family.

**Alfred E. Howe. *London Scottish Regiment.***

Alfred E. Howe of Mitcham, Surrey, died in hospital on 2 August 1975, aged 79.

He was wounded on the Somme in 1916, while serving as a Private with the London Scottish Regiment. He was a retired accountant and company secretary, and had been a member of St. Dunstan's since 1973. For a long while he had suffered considerable disability, but his admission to hospital and death were unexpected.

He had been a widower for many years; he leaves a daughter, Mrs. Joyce Mason, and a sister and brother.

**Isaac Jones *Monmouth Regiment***

Isaac Jones of Hilltop Poultry Farm, Luston, Leominster, Hereford and Worcester, died on 31 July aged 87.

When he came to St. Dunstan's in 1931 he trained as a mat maker, which he kept up until the age of 84. In addition he tended his garden and kept poultry, and these activities extended when he moved to a property at Luston in 1940 with more land. After his wife died in 1953 he was looked after by members of his family, some

living with him and others close by, and sixteen years ago his daughter Mrs. Mary Davies moved to keep house for him.

He leaves a family of daughters.

**Rufus Jones. *Royal Fusiliers***

Rufus Jones of Peacehaven, Sussex, died at Pearson House on 7th August 1975, aged 63.

He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1944 after being wounded in Italy. He was trained to work in industry, and for 35 years was a valued employee—nearly 20 years were spent with one firm, Messrs. Mettoys Ltd. of Fforestfach, Swansea. He moved to the South of England after ill health caused his retirement.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Beatrice S. Jones.

**George Miller. *Royal Artillery.***

George Miller of Sale Moor, Cheshire, died in hospital on 19th July 1975, aged 58, after illness earlier this year and convalescence at Pearson House.

In May 1943 George was wounded at Dejjelley in Algeria. He came to St. Dunstan's later that year, and fulfilled a wish to train as a joiner; in this craft he attained a high degree of workmanship and it was his occupation until 1949. From then until 1968 he was in industrial employment, first in Sheffield and later in Manchester, despite periods of ill health. He undertook a refresher course in joinery in 1968; again he proved to be a very competent woodworker, and made a variety of articles for us.

George's garden was one of his main interests, and his other great hobby was walking; he helped make St. Dunstan's history when he was in the group which undertook the first climb by St. Dunstaners of Cader Idris, in 1974.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Miller, and three children; Peter, Sonia and David.

**Eric Craig Neill. *R.A.F.***

Eric Craig Neill of Coventry, West Midlands, died on 23 July 1975 in the Royal Midland Counties Home, Leamington Spa.

He joined the R.A.F. at the age of 18, and after the Second World War he remained in regular service until 1964. In addition to his loss of sight he was already confined to a wheelchair by illness when he came to St. Dunstan's in 1969. However he enjoyed as active a life as possible, and after moving to Coventry he joined his local Caledonian Society, and the swimming club, and became interested in amateur radio. He was also Chairman of the local Multiple Sclerosis Society Day Centre. He frequently spent holidays at our Brighton homes, and in 1972 he was delighted that a stay at the Princess Louise Hospital in Lanarkshire enabled him to visit his native Scotland, where members of his family came to see him.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jessie Neill, and two children, Andrew and Fiona.



**Sydney Edward Nichols.** *14th London Scottish Regiment and R.A.M.C.*

Sydney Edward Nichols of Rochford, Essex, died in hospital on 14th August, aged 86.

He was wounded in 1916 while serving as a Private; and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1974.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Violet Nichols.

**William Nichols.** *3rd Coldstream Guards.*

William Nichols of Crawley Down, Sussex, died in hospital on 26 August 1975, at the age of 81.

He was wounded while serving as a L./Cpl. at Ginchy in 1916, and admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He worked as a telephonist until his retirement.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Frances Nichols, and children.

**Cedric James Ousley.** *R.N.V.R.*

Cedric James Ousley, of Worthing, Sussex, died at his home on the 23rd August, 1975. He was 61 years of age.

He served in the R.N.V.R. in the Second War and took part in Arctic convoys to Russia. His sight did not fail finally until fairly recently and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1973.

He was a widower and leaves his elderly mother and other relatives in this country and a daughter, who is married and settled in America.

**Ernest Leonard Parry.** *18th Lancs Fusiliers*

Leonard Parry, of Burghclere, Newbury, Berks., died in London on the 21st August, 1975. He was 77 years of age.

He was commissioned and served in the First War and lost his sight through a gunshot wound. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and took up poultry farming, continuing with this and mixed farming until his first wife's death in 1955. He then turned his attention to woodwork and became an outstanding craftsman, designing and making a wide variety of unusual, beautiful and useful things, many of them for his local church. He married again in 1958 and he and his wife played an active part in parish life for many years. He had always enjoyed good health, but became ill at home, went into hospital and died just a few days later.

He leaves a widow and an adopted daughter, who is married with a young family.

**Frank Albert Rhodes.** *6th Canadian Railway Troops*

Frank Albert Rhodes died on 12th July 1975 at the age of 84.

His sight failed while serving in France in 1917, and in June of that year he came to St. Dunstan's and trained as a shorthand-typist.

His first post was with Debenham and Freebody's, but in 1919 he worked for a year with

the Cambridge branch of the National Institute for the Blind. In 1920 he obtained a post with the Board of Trade and returned to work in London. He was married in 1922. In November 1931 Frank Rhodes started work with the Legal Section of the General Post Office and upon the outbreak of war in 1939 he moved with his section of the G.P.O. to Exeter for the duration, and he and his wife did not move back to London until January 1946. He always had many interests; he loved music, and in his younger days he played the violin and flute. He took part in various walking races, and in 1942, having taken up cycling he and his son went by tandem from Exeter to London and back, and to and from Blackpool.

In May 1951 Frank Rhodes retired and moved to Brighton, and shortly afterwards was instrumental in founding the St. Dunstan's Club there. He was often one of the St. Dunstan's team to represent us at Bridge Congresses, including those at Ilkley and Harrogate.

Frank Rhodes went to the Warminster Camp from 3rd to 7th July this year, where he had a very happy time as always, and just a week later, while visiting friends in Bedford with his family, he collapsed and died. The funeral service, which took place at the Wood Vale Crematorium, Brighton, on 21st July, was conducted by the Rev. Dennis Pettit, assisted by the St. Dunstan's Chaplain, Rev. Popham Hosford. It was attended by parties representing the Brighton and London Clubs, together with many St. Dunstaners and friends from the Brighton area.

He leaves a son, John, and daughter, Jean.

**Percy Charles Spurgeon, M.M.** *11th Suffolk Regiment*

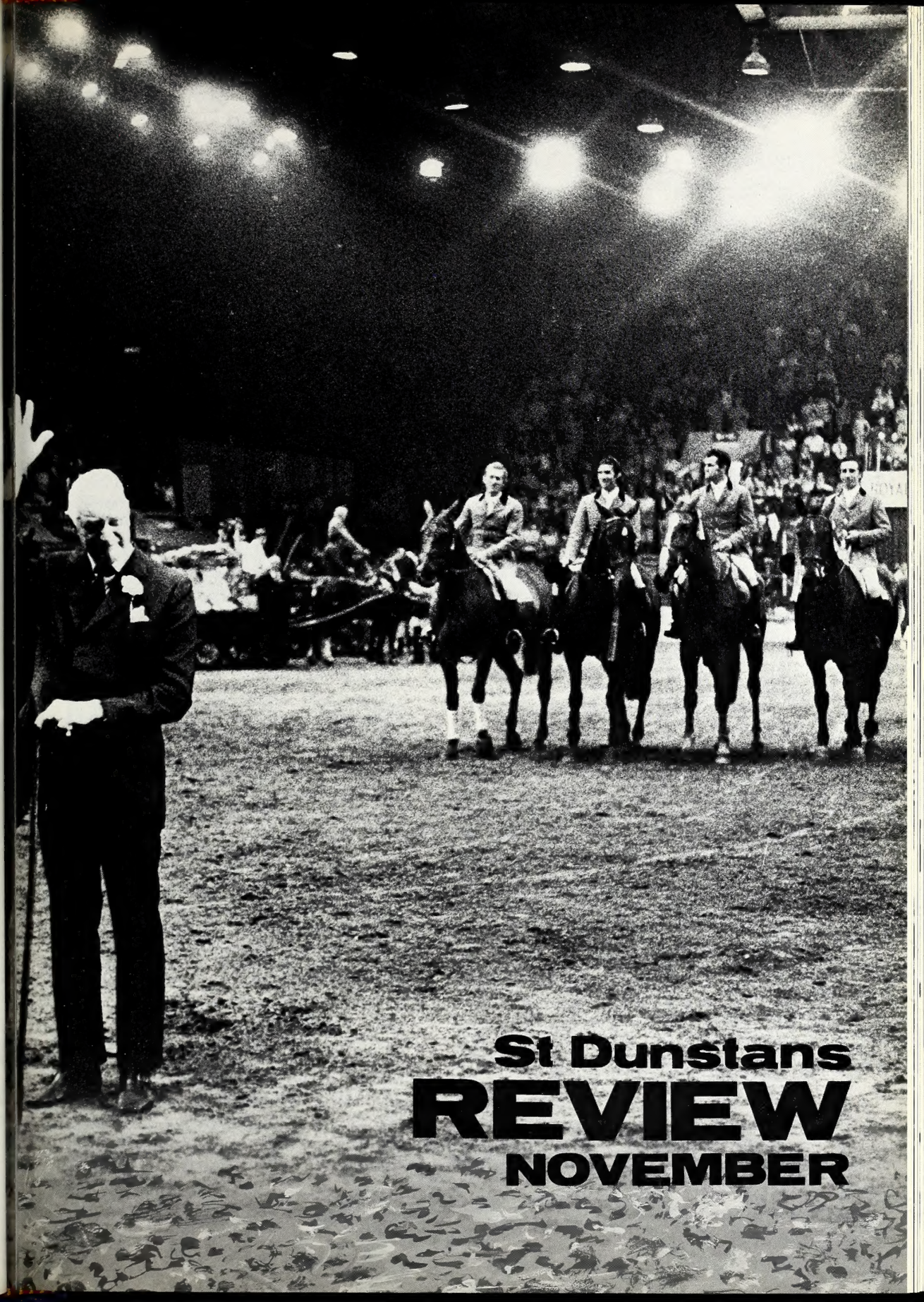
Percy Charles Spurgeon of Halstead, Essex, died on 23rd July, 1975 in Halstead Hospital, aged 82.

He was wounded at Cambrai in October 1918, and when he came to St. Dunstan's he trained as a boot repairer, and subsequently learned mat-making. He began keeping livestock, and in 1925 realised his ambition to keep animals on a large scale when he bought a property with sufficient land for him to concentrate entirely upon poultry and pig farming. Later he undertook general farming, with the help of his son Jack when the latter was old enough. His youngest daughter Joyce looked after her father and brother when Mrs. Spurgeon died in 1961.

He remained remarkably fit, and retained his interest in the farm even when age made him less active. He became ill and was admitted to hospital in June.

He leaves three children, Jack, Joyce and his married daughter, Grace.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**NOVEMBER**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 668

NOVEMBER 1975

10p MONTHLY

## I LIKE TO WIN —

### But now it's for St. Dunstan's

In December 1944, Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, now Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's, but then just Colonel Mike, permitted his name to be put forward for the Chairmanship of the British Show-Jumping Association. He was elected by just one vote—possibly the most important single vote in the history of horse-riding. For that vote brought to show-jumping a man with ideas for the sport—nurtured during his time as a prisoner-of-war—and, despite his blindness, the drive to put them into practice.

In something over thirty years a sport in which international competition was mostly confined to Army teams, has blossomed into a major spectacle, where, through television, millions of people, most of whom may never have ridden a horse, follow the fortunes of the riders and their equally famous horses.

#### Princess Elizabeth

Now Colonel Sir Mike has organised his last Horse of the Year Show which concluded on October 11th and in conversation he looked back over the years: "I was jumping at Olympia at the International Horse Show in 1931 and that was the first year I went abroad, to America, New York. I wasn't playing polo because I had broken my hand, so I took up show-jumping, competed at Olympia and won my first blue rosette. Then 1932 was the first year we had our trick ride there and it was the first year Her Majesty the Queen came—when she was very small, as Princess Elizabeth."

The trick ride was a display by Army horsemen and it was in organising this spectacular event that Colonel Sir Mike

learned the arts of production and showmanship. "We used to practise in the early morning then go through what we were going to do on our flat feet, putting out the props and things and literally running through.

"Jumping swords was really very, very highly skilled because a sword is so narrow, three feet six. The more risky things were picking up handkerchiefs because then you brought your right leg over to the left side of the horse and you had your left leg in a strap tied to the girth. Then you hung backwards to pick up anything on the ground. I had two really bad falls when the strap broke."

#### Trick Ride Finale

The finale of the trick ride was four riders taking a jump as they left the arena and swinging on to trapezes, leaving the horses to run free. "It was all very well but they soon learnt that the faster they went, the sooner they'd be free. Sergeant Hodgson had two real falls because he could just hold on to the trapeze with one hand and he couldn't hold on when he swung right out. Then we were doing it in Leicestershire and we all four went on our backs and we thought, well, we've had enough and we cut it out."

That was split second timing with a vengeance, and today Colonel Sir Mike runs the Horse Shows to the minute, "I literally keep my finger on my watch the whole night. When I'm at Control I know everything that's going on, by listening. There's one person who sits to my right—I stand behind—and I can say to him at any time, 'how many more are there to

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**COVER PICTURE:** *At the Royal International Horse Show, Colonel Sir Mike waves his goodbye to the audience. In the background are the riders of the England team. Photo: Leslie Lane.*





*Signing his book 'Soldier On' for Colonel Harry Llewellyn and Pat Koechlin-Smythe.*

jump?' and he may say, 'there's three to jump off, so it looks as if we might over-run by six minutes.' Then I think where I might be able to pick up six minutes, later in the evening. Last night we were running at one time about 17 minutes late but we picked it up and finished only one minute late. I think it's one advantage, a blind person running something because you are thinking ahead. You have nothing to look at. Nothing distracts me, I can just listen and think, think, think and think ahead."

The efficiency which permits timing like this is no accident, it comes from practising everything. When, sadly, a horse had to be destroyed in the ring at the International Horse Show, "We'd practised it for ten years and up went the screens, on came the house lights, the band started playing. The horse had been taken out on a skid in 3 minutes 40 seconds. I've seen it happen abroad and take 45 minutes to get a veterinary surgeon."

Good organisation and timing make the big shows the joy of television producers and it is through television that show-jumping has found its popularity with the millions. "I don't know what the viewing figures will be this week but at the International Horse Show in July the last four nights were on television and each night the viewing figures were ten to eleven million and I should think this Show will be higher. At one time when we had Eurovision on as well we were up to 17 million."

### **Profitable Shows**

Sir Mike opened his first show with advance bookings of £69. This year they were nearly £80,000. "With the Horse of the Year Show, after the second year, it was nearly always showing 25-30% profit. Both these shows are what I call viable, they have to be. Abroad there isn't a single show that makes money, but we are still holding our net profit at



the same figure, 25-30%. All of it goes back into the Horse World."

Colonel Sir Mike admits that he had no idea of the splendid shape those plans he made to pass the time in the prisoner-of-war camp would take. In fact, he had no intention of trying to put them into practice, but his flair, energy and leadership have been vital factors in the establishment of show-jumping as a major spectator sport. In 1948 came the Olympics at Wembley, "I was responsible for planning and building the course, but at that time I could see a little bit out of my left eye. We won a Bronze Medal at the Olympics. Then in 1952, my sight had gone completely and I went in charge of our team to Helsinki where we were the only sport to win a Gold Medal."

### **Something to Market**

"Well, then we had something to market. We'd been gradually improving the types of fences to encourage the better quality horse and we made the rules much more simple so the spectator could understand them and we then had real spectator participation."

The turning point, Sir Mike asserts, was international success, "I think if we ever fail to win going abroad and become unable to take on the foreign competitors I think the sport would go down very quickly. It was wonderful last night, Alwin Shockemöhle was sitting very pretty, or thought he was, with a fast, clear round. In came David Broome and clipped about 2 seconds off his time and had the thing won. It is this excitement and success and, I think, again, good production, that captures the public."

Among his winners over the years two stand out for Colonel Mike, "Pat Smythe, Mrs. Koechlin-Smythe, and Colonel Llewellyn, because they really put us on the map. All the foreigners know I like winning and they laugh at me about it. They're tremendous friends, actually, all these riders, yet they're highly competitive. It is a wonderful spirit." And that is the secret for Sir Mike: "I like winning and you must hate losing but you must never, never show it. You've got to accept it when you've lost."

For the future, Colonel Sir Mike Ansell sees his sport continuing its advance because, "You never reach perfection. I shall be a member of the British Equestrian Federation. I won't vote but I can talk—or help in any way possible—and I shall have more time to do anything that is wanted for St. Dunstan's."

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### **A Message from the Chairman to Sir Michael:**

In this interview you talk of the friendship between all the riders and refer to the "wonderful spirit". Every St. Dunstaner knows whose "wonderful spirit" is chiefly behind the success of show jumping in this country and feels a bit taller when the name of "Mike Ansell" is mentioned. We are all tremendously proud of you and grateful for the splendid way you have brought St. Dunstan's name to the fore in the horse world and beyond.

We all wish you a happy retirement and look forward to greeting you on many St. Dunstan's occasions in the future.

**Ion Garnett-Orme**

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## **PENSIONS NOTES**

### **Allowance for the over-eighties**

A few years ago the Department of Health and Social Security brought in an allowance of 25p a week for *all* Pensioners of 80 years of age and over. Would St. Dunstaners and their wives, and the widows of St. Dunstaners, who are over 80 years of age, check their pensions to ascertain whether they are receiving the additional 25p. If they are in any doubt,

please contact **Mr. L. A. Slade** at Headquarters.

A note appeared in the *Review* at the end of last year advising St. Dunstaners of the new facility of having their pensions and allowances paid into their Banking Accounts monthly in arrear. In fact, these are paid 4-weekly in arrear so that Pensioners will receive 13 payments in one year.



# CLUB NEWS

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## BRIGHTON

Under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre a Steering Committee was elected in September 1975 to consider a constitution for a new St. Dunstan's Social and Sports Club in the Brighton area.

As a result, a General Meeting was held at Ian Fraser House on Wednesday 1st October, and the following were elected for 1975/76:

President	Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre
Vice-President	Miss F. Ramshaw
Chairman	Mr. J. E. Frearson
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. K. R. Dew
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. J. Dennis
Legal Adviser	Mr. H. D. Rice
Auditor	Mr. F. Thomas

and representatives of the following Sections: Bowls; Bridge; Entertainment; Fishing and Sport.

A constitution was approved and will be circulated to members as soon as it has been considered by our legal representative, Mr. Rice. Membership of the Club is open to "St. Dunstaners permanently living in Brighton and surrounding areas". Membership may be extended to St. Dunstaners outside Sussex who are not already members of a St. Dunstan's Club. The annual subscription is £1 for Ordinary members (St. Dunstaners), 50p for Associate members (wives or permanent escorts). There is provision for honorary membership for widows of former

members of the Club or other persons who have given special service to the Club. Mr. Wills, Commandant and Matron, Mrs. Blackford were present at the inaugural meeting. Miss Guilbert kindly acted as Hon. Secretary at this meeting and at the meetings of the Steering Committee.

Correspondence concerning the Club should be addressed to:

The Hon. Secretary,  
St. Dunstan's Social and Sports Club,  
Ian Fraser House,  
Ovingdean, Brighton, Sussex.

At the time of writing the Club has a membership of over one hundred, and we hope we may have many happy gatherings in the future.

*ELIZABETH DACRE President*

We should like to thank all those who attended the first General Meeting on 1st October at Ian Fraser House of the Brighton Sports and Social Club, for the election of Officers.

Our thanks go to St. Dunstan's for the privilege of using the splendid facilities provided at Ian Fraser House. May I remind club members to take full advantage of these facilities, to use them sensibly and not to abuse them in any way.

*J. E. FREARSON Chairman*

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## LONDON

We were very sorry to hear that *Charlie Hancock* had fallen some weeks ago and broken an ankle at Windsor. Unfortunately this necessitated the ankle being in plaster for some six weeks. However, all St. Dunstaners and friends in the London Club are pleased to hear the good news that Charlie is now more cheerful after having the plaster removed and able to move around a little. All our members send their best wishes, Charlie, and we hope that you and your wife Gladys will be able to join us again soon at the Club.

St. Dunstaners will also be very sorry to learn that Mrs. Carol Higginson, who

continued to visit the Club a number of years after her husband passed away, died a short time ago. Carol lived at Pinner and had been unable to visit the Club for some years owing to ill-health.

Recent Domino winners at the Club were:

September 25th	1 R. Armstrong
	2 W. Miller
October 2nd	1 R. Armstrong
	2 P. Sheehan
October 9th	1 G. Stanley
	2 P. Sheehan

*W. MILLER  
Secretary*



## MIDLAND

Sunday 14th September was the date of our last monthly meeting, and I am pleased to say that it was quite well attended.

We were therefore able to complete our Sir Arthur Pearson knockout competition; the winner was *Joe Kibbler*, who narrowly beat *Guy Bilcliff*. Well done, Joe, and our condolences to Guy. "Better luck next time".

The main feature of our meeting was one of our now very popular "Bring and Buy" sales. It was a very good one, and raised a substantial sum of money for our Club funds.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tomporowski was the lady concerned with arranging the tea for us this time and we thanked her warmly for a very lovely spread.

On Sunday, 28th September, we had our usual outing to Stratford where we had tea with our old friends at the Royal British Legion.

We left Birmingham at two o'clock and arrived at Stratford at approximately 2.45 p.m. It was a lovely afternoon so we all had a walk around and one or two had a boat trip on the river.

At five o'clock we all assembled at the British Legion for a fine tea which had been prepared for us once again by the Ladies Section of the branch. They certainly do us proud every time we go there.

As it went rather chilly after tea most of us stayed indoors and some played dominoes until it was time to open the bar. Our friends at Stratford had arranged for a pianist and an accordionist to come along and play for us so we had quite a good singsong for about an hour before leaving for home at 8.45 p.m.

Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves and I personally think each visit to the Stratford Royal British Legion gets better than the previous one. They certainly give us a very warm welcome every time we go there.

Will members please note that our meeting in November is, as usual, on the first Sunday of the month; the date is 2nd November, so everyone is free on Armistice Sunday to attend their own Memorial Service if they wish.

**D. CASHMORE**  
*Club Secretary*

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**William Alfred Robinson** of Uxbridge, Middx., joined St. Dunstan's on 19th September. He served as a Private in the Middlesex Regiment.

**Robert Hollingworth** of Chester, Cheshire, joined St. Dunstan's on 19th September 1975. He was a Bandsman with The Green Howards. He is unmarried, and now staying at Ian Fraser House.

**Frank Cockayne** of Oldham, Lancashire, joined St. Dunstan's in September. He served in the First World War with the Labour Corps, and was wounded in France in 1917. He is a widower and lives with his married daughter.

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### ST. DUNSTANERS' ACCOMMODATION

Occasionally St. Dunstaners inform us that they require temporary or permanent homely lodgings, with full board. If any relatives of deceased St. Dunstaners are willing to offer such accommodation, we should be most grateful if they would contact the Southern Area Superintendent, Miss P. J. Rogers (for the South of England and the West Country) or the Northern Area Superintendent, Miss C. Mosley (for the Midlands and the North).

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### STEALING THE SHOW

Twenty-five first prizes and one second prize seems a record for any horticultural competition! In Norwich recently *Gordon Watts* collected this number of accolades at the Annual Show held by the Blind at the Vauxhall Centre on 3rd September. He—understandably—won the cup presented as the Show's All Round Award, which he also took last year.



# BRIDGE NOTES

## LONDON

On Saturday 27th September the Autumn Bridge drive took place at the London Club rooms, and as usual was very well attended.

The proceedings started with our captain asking everybody to stand for one minute, in memory of the late *Alf Field* who, as most of you know, has been friend, inspiration, mentor and tutor of our Bridge Section for many years, in fact the Bridge Club would never have existed but for his untiring efforts as far back as the Forties.

After this, play commenced, with eight tables. At the end of the afternoon Mrs. Nora Field, the recently bereaved widow of Alf, arrived and graciously consented to present the prizes to the winners. I am sure that I echo the thoughts of all members when I say that we hope to see her on many occasions in the future, and would like her to know that we will always consider her "one of us".

The proceedings then concluded with our usual very fine tea, arranged and served by our genial Club Steward, Norman Smith, his wife Flora and a band of willing helpers.

## Results

- 1 Alan Caldwell and Miss S. Lyons
- 2 Bill Allen and Mr. P. Woods
- 3 Bob Evans and Mrs. Evans
- 4 Roy Armstrong and Mr. J. Armstrong

**The Eighth Individual Competition** was held on Saturday 4th October.

## Results

J. Majchrowicz and J. Huk	74
W. Miller and F. Dickerson	69
J. Lynch and Partner	67
P. Nuyens and Miss Vera Kemmish	60
W. Allen and H. Meleson	56

**The best five results to date** are as follows:

J. Huk	355
W. Allen	353
W. Miller	340
F. Dickerson	337
P. Nuyens	336
J. Lynch	325
A. Caldwell	305

H. Meleson	304
Miss Vera Kemmish	301
J. Majchrowicz	298
J. Padley (after 4 games)	253
W. Phillips (after 2 games)	144
R. Evans (after 2 games)	102
H. King (after 1 game)	69

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### Ovingdean Bridge Congress

The Annual Bridge Congress has been arranged for next year from Friday evening the 20th until Monday the 23rd of February, 1976. If any Club member so wishes it could be arranged that they could remain over the Monday night in the Ian Fraser House.

Any St. Dunstaners wishing to participate in the Bridge Congress should forward their names, addresses and the name of their partner to me at Headquarters. We shall endeavour to help any member who has not got a partner to find a suitable one.

*H. MELESON*  
Secretary

## BRIGHTON

**The Sixth Individual Competition** was held on Saturday, 4th October.

## Results:

S. Webster and J. Padley	73
J. Whitcombe and R. D. Fullard	70
A. Dodgson and F. Griffiee	65
W. Claydon and M. Clements	61
W. T. Scott and J. T. Simmons	59
C. Walter and P. McCormack	50

*R. FULLARD*  
Secretary

## Harrogate Bridge Week, 1975

A report of the Annual Harrogate Bridge Week, 13th-20th September 1975, will appear in the December issue of the *Review*.

## Acknowledgement

Mrs. Nora Field would like to express her deep appreciation and gratitude for the many letters, tributes and great kindness she received from St. Dunstan's on the death of her husband Alf.





# IT STRIKES ME

by  
Magog

## Golden Eggs

A sponsored walker whose success brought him something of a problem is **Ray Benson**. His 30 mile walk, for the benefit of a fellow member of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes who is a blind and legless diabetic, has raised £625. In addition, another sponsor offered a dozen eggs for each mile Ray covered which left him the proud possessor of 360 new-laid eggs to dispose of profitably before they aged!

No trouble—Ray turned egg salesman and his personal fund for his doubly handicapped fellow Buffalo was swollen by a further £49. Our photo shows him with some of the eggs on his friend's poultry farm.



## Dead?— But he won't lie down

How would *you* like to read your own obituary? Well, it wasn't quite that bad, at least we didn't print it in the *Review*. But **Bill Megson's** friends somehow got hold of the idea that he had departed this life and said nice things about him (will their kind opinions survive his continued appearance at his old haunts, still "in the pink"?). For the truth is that Bill, we are glad to report, remains hale and hearty, and greatly enjoyed his holiday at Ian Fraser House this summer. We wish him long life, and happy gardening!

## Great Cricket

**Wilfred Knight's** enthusiasm for cricket has been rewarded recently with a place in the Barclay's Bank team (he is a telephonist in York) which played against the Victoria Cricket Club (London) at the Bank's Sports Club in Ealing Broadway. Three matches were taking place in these "quite pleasant surroundings" but the "blind" one was the noisiest and the most keenly contested, it appeared.

The rules are slightly altered from the usual game. A player has two chances when batting; the space between the wickets is 18 yards instead of 22 and one has a runner when contact is made with the rather large audible ball. A fielder may catch the ball on the first bounce, and this still gets a wicket.

The Bank won by 38 runs. Wilfred was pleased at scoring 4 runs, and catching out three players. He thinks that the practice he put in when his son Nicholas was learning the game has helped him considerably. They used to play in the house drive, with a 6 in. audible ball and not very sophisticated stumps, "but you knew you were out when the ball hit the dustbin".

"We were entertained to a nice afternoon tea, and after the match there was lots of conviviality and chat in the bar. Altogether it was an enjoyable and interesting experience. I shall look forward if asked to have another outing with the team next season".



## From South Africa for Bowls

**Keith Branson**, a South African St. Dunstaner, arrived in England early in September for a fortnight's bowls, and a visit to Ian Fraser House. He took part in competitions at Hastings and at Lowestoft, and although he was not too thrilled with his own results, when he spoke to us on the telephone from Ian Fraser House he had obviously enjoyed his matches and his holiday very much indeed. He took back with him a Hastings Club tie, presented to the player who had travelled the farthest to participate.

## Musical Meeting

**Willy MacPherson** of Chiswick, London, is a St. Dunstaner with a talent for piano playing. At Ian Fraser House earlier this year he and an 83 year old fellow St. Dunstaner—a figure generally known as "G.B.S." because of his resemblance to the author—entertained their compatriots; Willy played and sang "Fall of Jerusalem"; they both sang "Little Grey Home in the West" and Willy continued playing. In the course of this convivial evening "G.B.S." told Willy that he lived in Watford, but previously in Croxley Green. This rang a bell for Willy. He enquired whether "G.B.S." knew Percy Jennings; "I am Percy Jennings" said his musical collaborator—Willy's first boss, in the firm of architects and surveyors to which he had been articled x years ago!

## Venture to Holland

**Dennis Freeman**, of Coventry, is an Assistant District Commissioner of Venture Scouts and in July he took 41 young people to Holland. They saw clog makers at work, cheese farms in production, bulb nurseries, diamond exhibitions and visited the Airborne Museum at Arnhem. The helpfulness and friendliness of the Dutch people contributed to the success of the expedition. BUT—one camper was obviously reluctant to leave Dutch soil, for his tent erupted in flames when packed for the return journey, to the mystification of all. Dennis is now sorting out the insurance . . .



*George Hewett makes the presentation at Scout Headquarters, Baden-Powell House.*

## Scouts' Rug

**George Hewett** shares with many other St. Dunstaners a talent for making most attractive rugs, and one of them is now gracing the portals of Baden-Powell House in Queen's Gate, London S.W.7, Headquarters of the Scout Association. 5 ft. by 2 ft. 3 in., and "scouting green" in colour, it has the Scout emblem in gold, embellished with two brown stars, proudly emblazoned in the centre.

George presented the rug to the Scout Association on Tuesday, 23rd September, and it was accepted by the Secretary, Ted Hayden. Other officials present were Norman Rowe, the Warden of Baden-Powell House; Charles Winn, Executive Commissioner, Headquarters Services; and Mr. Hayden's secretary, Mrs. D. Perry.

The rug took George a fortnight's work, and contains twenty-thousand tufts of wool. (Enough to clothe one sheep, we ask ourselves?).



# Deaf Reunion 1975

*Ron Ellis reports on the Deaf/Blind Reunion held at Brighton this year.*

The Deaf Reunion was held from 14th to 18th August and what a grand little get-together it proved to be. It beats me how time was found to work out a programme for the Reunion during the big changeover from Pearson House back to Ian Fraser House. Matron, the Commandant and Mrs. Williams must have worked extremely hard, as it turned out to be a real "on the go" Reunion.

Thursday 14th. At 7 p.m. we had sherry with Matron and the Commandant, followed by a lovely opening dinner. Our guests were Mrs. Dacre and Dr. O'Hara; it was such a pleasure to have them with us and to talk to them about our everyday life. Dinner now over, we made our way back to the committee room for another sherry or two and a bit more chit-chat. Our sincere thanks to the cook and staff for such a lovely dinner.

## A Day on the Thames

Friday morning saw the lads up nice and early. This was the big day, almost a life on the ocean waves. Our first port of call was the Pool of London, to board the cruiser H.M.S. *Belfast*, a great ship. We were taken on a grand tour of the ship. Our guide was superb, every little question was answered. I would not be surprised if he knew how many rivets and bolts there were holding the ship together. That's what Wally thought too. The tour of the ship over and having thanked our guide we made our way to the next port of call, Charing Cross Pier, for lunch aboard the Restaurant ship *Hispaniola*. An excellent lunch was served and with the slight roll of the ship it seemed to make it that much more enjoyable.

At 2.45 p.m. we boarded the Thames launch for the 3 p.m. departure to Greenwich. On arrival we boarded that grand old sailing ship *Cutty Sark* where another feast of exploration was had. Our guide was great, by the time he had finished explaining the different things to us, we thought we were back in the days of the great sailing ships. Wally turned to me and said "They must have had plenty of bully in those days to get

these things moving". Thanking our guide for all his kind help we made our way to the taxi which was to take us to the Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria. Oh, boy, were we glad to sit down for a few minutes now our old sea legs were just about beginning to feel the strain, a lovely dinner was had by all, then we were off to catch the train to Brighton then on to Ian Fraser House, where Matron was waiting to welcome us back with a smile to see that we were all safe and sound. It had been a real super day. It really made our day too, to have with us our dear friend Mr. Bill Webster. To us he is one of the greatest and we sincerely hope we shall still have him with us now and again.

## Wisley

Saturday morning we were taken by minibus to the Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Surrey. On arrival we were met by Mr. Ian Rees and Mr. Clayton, P.R.O., who were to take us on a tour of the grounds personally. An excellent lunch was served to us in the Restaurant and was greatly enjoyed by all. Now feeling refreshed we were off on our tour of the gardens with Mr. Clayton. There is so much to see there, it really would take about a week to get round it all. The greenhouses, which are huge, have dozens of exotic plants and flowers in them. It was a great pity there was none for sale, but then perhaps we would not have been able to keep them for long. The trees in the gardens were beautiful, dozens of different species from different parts of the world. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Clayton for all the information he gave us.

The tour of the gardens now over, tea was taken in the restaurant, and more talk exchanged with Mr. Rees and Mr. Clayton. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Ian Rees and staff for the excellent lunch and tea, and for their kind understanding, and then we were away to Ian Fraser House for dinner, and so another long day behind us, but a day to remember. It was very nice to have Mr. George Rees and his wife with us for the day.





*The Reunion party on the Brighton Marina site.*

Sunday, a nice quiet day, just to lounge about and talk or go for a stroll. At 3.16 p.m. transport whisked us away to Pearson House to have tea with Matron Hallett. It is always a great pleasure to meet Matron Hallett and have a good chat about one thing and another, it is always the same, when one goes out, the time slips by so fast and we were soon saying cheerio to Matron, then back to Ian Fraser House.

Monday. The last day of the Reunion, and still "all systems go". At 10.15 a.m. we were off to site office Brighton Marina, to meet Mr. R. Howart of Messrs. Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd., and Mr. A. Cooper, Consultant Engineer, who took us on a tour of the site. There was one thing that impressed me; for the amount of time and the number of men they have on the job, they have done a colossal amount of work. Let us wish them luck in getting the job completed on time. When finished it will be the pride of Brighton. There is still a lot of hard and dangerous work to be done,

but when finished the workmen will be entitled to puff their chests out. Our sincere thanks to Mr. R. Howart and Mr. A. Cooper, for all the information they gave us.

Tea was taken at 3.30 p.m. with Mr. Wills, Commandant and Matron and Welfare Staff, a pleasant afternoon of pow-wows.

About 5.30 p.m. the lads started cleaning up and fetching the few last whiskers off the chin, ready for the farewell dinner. All spruced up like pools winners we were aboard the transport to the Eaton Restaurant. An excellent dinner was served and enjoyed by all. Among those present were Mr. C. D. Wills, Commandant, Matron Blackford and Matron Hallett. After dinner and while drinking our coffee, Wally gave the speech of thanks, the signalling of yet another Deaf Reunion never to be forgotten. So, once again, I will say our sincere thanks to all for making the Reunion a happy and enjoyable occasion.





*Amber at home with her master.*

Photo: Daily Telegraph.

# BETTER THAN ONE

by Robin Buckley

My yellow labrador guide dog, Amber, died on 17th April, 1974. She was fourteen years, four months old, and was suffering from a severe and incurable kidney complaint. That night we buried her in a grave dug by my wife in our garden and I need hardly say it was a very sad occasion.

I had trained with Amber, my first guide dog, at Cleve House, the Exeter Centre of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, in June, 1961, a month of glorious sunny weather, so Amber had worked with me for just six weeks short of thirteen years, an all time record, I believe, for guide dogs trained at Exeter.

During the last eight months of her life Amber had been totally deaf as a result of a small overdose of anaesthetic given when her teeth were being attended to in August, 1973. The anaesthetic, I was told, had somehow got into Amber's central nervous system and this had resulted in immediate and permanent deafness. I thought it would be better for Amber to continue working despite the disability, provided she remained willing, as she always had been, and as she continued to be. I did not think Amber

at that stage depended greatly on her hearing when working and that safety would not be affected. I told nobody outside the family except Exeter for many months and I felt reasonably sure that nobody at work or in my home district would notice that anything was wrong. Nobody did, and indeed there was nothing special to notice, as Amber and I had become such a close-knit unit over this long period of years.

Knowing that I could not spare time to train with another guide dog before August, 1974—even assuming that a replacement dog was available—I contacted the National Mobility Centre in Birmingham the day after Amber's death and Mr. Peter Ryan, the Principal, immediately arranged for me to receive long cane instruction, starting on the following Monday.

As I could not find time to go for the full long cane mobility training, Miss Dix, at that time Mobility Officer for the Westminster Borough of the Greater London Council, in which St. Dunstan's headquarters is situated, very kindly came along on several afternoons each week for the next four weeks or so and





*Mrs. Buckley with Amber and her master after the latter had opened a garden for the blind at Hornchurch, Essex.*

Photo : Hornchurch and Upminster News.

we went out from the office for about forty minutes on each occasion. This amount of training enabled me to continue my journey between home and office independently and it thus tided me over the four months period before my return to Exeter for a new dog.

The advantages of guide dog ownership are that the blind person can travel faster, more safely and in a much more relaxed and enjoyable manner than he can with any other mobility aid, or combination of mobility aids, known to us at present. The reason is simple enough. The guide dog owner has an animal making full use of its eyes and ears as well as its intelligence, coupled with all aspects of the training it has received over many months. Two heads, they say, are better than one. Moreover, the guide dog owner has no worry about the line he must take along the pavement in order to remain roughly in the centre and to avoid human and other obstacles, whereas the long cane user must concentrate much more on this part of the work. As to speed of travel, let me just say that my ordinary daily walk from home to station or the reverse, a distance of about one

and a half miles, took me twenty-five minutes with Amber and fifty minutes using the long cane.

Another important point is the amount of warning which a blind traveller receives from his mobility aid when approaching an unexpected obstacle. Let us suppose that the Electricity or Gas authority has come along early in the morning and dug a trench across the pavement prior to laying a cable or pipe and let us suppose that it has not yet been properly guarded. The long cane gives the required information just a fraction of a second before the trench is reached. The binaural sensor (ultra sonic spectacles) will give no warning at all. A guide dog, on the other hand, will indicate to its owner by slowing down or in some other way that something is different, at least ten paces away. No wonder, then, that the journey is so much more relaxed.

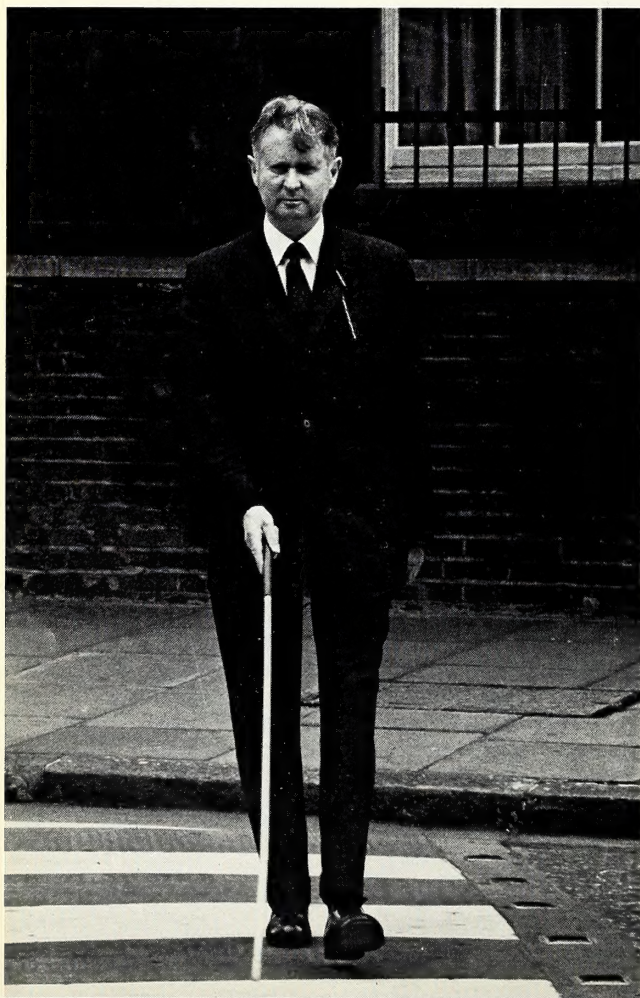
I think all independent blind travellers will agree that the most dangerous hazard which they meet in the ordinary way is a drop or series of steps down, and, of course, there is a technique for dealing with the situation whatever the mobility aid in use. Now, my guide dog



Amber, whenever we approached steps down, used to tap me with her nose on the left leg just below the knee. No one taught her to do this; it was something she thought out for herself.

Guide dogs are taught to walk to the left of the owner, the only exception being in the case of a blind person who has lost his left hand, in which case the guide dog has, from the start, to be specially trained to walk on the right. The natural pace at which the dog walks is matched as nearly as possible to the natural pace of the prospective owner. There are times when the dog is somewhat eager and wants to go faster and other times when it is feeling lethargic and wants to go slower. The technique of slowing down or speeding up the dog's pace is taught at the training centre. It is not difficult to learn, but, of course, it requires a certain amount of practice.

*Between dogs, the long cane proves to be a friend indeed.*



The dog and owner should obviously be walking at precisely the same speed. I say this because it is wrong for the dog to be pulling the owner along. The owner's left arm should normally be in a vertical position and loose, with the handle resting lightly in the palm of the hand. There should be an absolute minimum of tension between the two, just enough for the dog's movements to be transmitted almost instantaneously to the owner so that he can follow safely and rapidly. In difficult circumstances, such as walking along a crowded pavement, the dog has to make instant decisions, moving right or left as occasion demands, particularly in the case of pedestrians who are not looking where they are going, a situation by no means rare. In this, as well as in other respects, the dog's judgment is remarkably good and it does mean that the owner has to be fully alert and move quickly with the dog. The owner should continue, however, whilst his mind is concentrated to keep his body as relaxed as possible.

### **"Disadvantages"**

There are two inescapable disadvantages to guide dog ownership, if "disadvantage" is the right word to use:

- (a) The guide dog's working life is on average only about seven years.
- (b) The dog has to be looked after. It has to be fed, it has to be groomed, its health has to be watched. In short, everything must be done to keep the dog in a healthy and contented state of body and mind.

Any working animal, such as a guide dog, has to adapt itself to a considerable loss of freedom. This it learns to accept, provided it is given suitable conditions and is properly trained for the work over an adequate period of time. The Association say that each dog should have a free run for at least ten minutes every day and this should take place in an enclosed space such as a large garden or a recreation ground.

When guide dogs were first introduced to this country there was quite a strong feeling that it was cruel to restrict them in this way. The feeling passed quickly when people saw how happy the dogs were when working with blind people.



Dogs, they say, are unable to mask their feelings. If the tail is up you can be sure that the dog is enjoying life and if it is down then the dog is unhappy. Besides, this idea of cruelty is misplaced. Dogs have excellent brains which are put to very little use if the animal is kept as a pet. On the other hand, if it is given a useful job of work to do, such as guiding a blind person in difficult situations, the dog is making good use of its brain.

This brings me to the point of how to treat a guide dog. The Association rightly stresses that the dog must respect its owner, if not it will work badly and be generally disobedient. No doubt there are different ways of obtaining the right degree of respect. It is said that a dog regards its owner as the pack leader, an instinct passed down through countless generations, but in my opinion this is only a part of the whole truth.

### Unique Relationship

I remember a television film a few years ago in which men in the Arctic were shown beating their dogs viciously and viewers were told that they did this from time to time, not because the dogs had done anything wrong, but simply to show them who was master. Treatment of that kind is to me utterly repugnant, and most certainly inappropriate in the case of a guide dog. These dogs are unusual, if not unique, among working animals in that they remain with their owners for virtually twenty-four hours of every day. A little sharpness from time to time, particularly in the early days, may be needed to ensure the all important quality of obedience, but my experience is, that as time goes on—and quite a short time at that—the dog becomes increasingly obedient and is willing at all times.

On a few occasions I have met blind people, not guide dog owners, who have said to me, "if you have a guide dog you have lost your independence". This argument seems to me about as sensible as saying that if you travel from London to York by car or train you have lost your independence, because you have not made the journey on your own two feet. Of course the guide dog owner does have to think ahead when making unusual journeys which involve eating out in a

restaurant, where dogs may not be welcome, or when staying overnight in a hotel. My policy, whenever possible, is to contact the restaurant or hotel in advance in order to explain the position and make sure that there will be no objection to the dog going in with me. I think it wrong to arrive without prior notice at a restaurant with the dog and expect to be admitted as of right, for no such right exists in law.

I would like to dispose of another fallacy. This is that guide dog owners are unable to get about alone when they do not have the dog with them for any reason. The exact opposite is much nearer the mark. Since guide dog owners move faster and usually further than other blind people their muscles are toned up as well as their wits. As a result, their general orientation and mobility when they are without the dog is good.

In mid-August, 1974, I returned to Cleve House, Exeter, to train with Deana for three and a half weeks. Deana is a labrador crossed with a golden retriever, pale yellow in colour and slightly smaller than Amber. There were twelve students on this course, nine male and three female, which meant a full house. It is of interest, I think, that when I trained with Amber in 1961, I was the oldest student, but when I trained with Deana thirteen years later there were several students older than me. When I trained with Amber the number of guide dogs working in Britain was about 825 and now the number is about 2,000.

### Tribute to Exeter

The *St. Dunstan's Review* of January, 1962, carried an article "One Man And His Dog", in which I paid a tribute to the Controller, trainers, kennel maids and domestic staff at Exeter, adding that "they seem to have achieved exactly the right balance between firmness and impartiality on duty and friendliness and informality off duty". My opinion remains exactly as before. There is a very friendly atmosphere at Cleve. The house had been extended since my earlier visit in order to take four additional students on each course. Everything is well arranged, including social outings in the evenings, and the food is excellent. Trainers, kennel maids and students all eat together and



the student is looked after by whoever the sighted person sitting next to him or her happens to be.

Every human being is different, and so is every dog. Whereas Amber walked steadily along as though on rollers, Deana tends to bucket along like a small boat in a choppy sea. On my first outing with Deana I said to Mr. Driver, the trainer, "goodness, it is like going for a walk with Marilyn Monroe"! There was another difference which I noticed within twenty-four hours of meeting Deana. She had taken one of my slippers when I was out of the bedroom and ripped out the lining. She was in fact a persistent and destructive chewer of almost anything, including metal objects, despite the potential danger to herself. Give Deana a perfectly good leather shoe and thirty minutes unmolested time, and that shoe would be partially destroyed. I will return to this subject later on.

### **Only One Weakness**

Amber had only one fault, but this was serious. She was extremely greedy, and I cannot believe that any labrador dog was ever greedier than Amber. This was, however, her one and only weakness and although I did my best for a period of many weeks to effect a cure, giving her a special diet prescribed by an expert, this made not the slightest difference.

Sometimes people seem to think that once a guide dog has completed its training its work will continue impeccable for the rest of its life. A moment's reflection tells us that this expectation would be quite unreasonable. Human beings under discipline tend to slack off if they are allowed to do so and so do dogs. Indeed there is much more justification for a dog becoming slack because it cannot be expected to understand the reasons why the drill it has learned should be strictly adhered to. Putting this matter in the simplest terms, either the guide dog owner controls the dog or the dog takes charge of the owner and does what it wants to do. This might be chasing cats or anything else.

Arriving home with a new guide dog is, therefore, only a beginning and the problems can be considered as two-fold—problems at work and problems in the home. When I came home with Amber in

1961, there were no problems at home, except those connected with the previously mentioned greed, and problems at work were really confined to the business of Amber getting accustomed to a completely new area. But, whereas Amber had settled down at home at once with complete contentment, Deana had to be introduced gently to everything because she is a much more sensitive dog.

There were two problems in particular with Deana at home. The first concerned the chewing habit which I have already referred to. She would pick up anything and chew away at it until it was destroyed, if an eye was not kept on her. The second problem was cleanliness. Deana would relieve herself on the carpet in various parts of the house. There were two kinds of bad behaviour in this respect. I called one "excitement wetting" and the other "surreptitious wetting". The former occurred when a friend came to the door and was admitted. Deana would dash away to some remote corner, spend her penny and return with much tail wagging. The latter occurred at just any time, when she would sneak away and spend a penny in the house for this to be discovered later, despite the fact that she was put out to her run at regular and quite frequent intervals—much more frequent than was ever necessary with Amber.

### **From Home to Kennels**

Of course I asked myself why this should be, and I sought the assistance of the Association. Guide dogs are first puppy walked from an ordinary home where they live in comparative or even considerable comfort and are treated with much affection. Then they go to the training centre where they live in kennels and undergo their training over a period of four months or more. I was told that Deana had been puppy walked in the Birmingham area and that her conduct had been exemplary in every respect—no chewing, no wetting.

Now Deana, very friendly and affectionate, is a sensitive dog—I would go further and call her timid—so it occurred to me that the change from a comfortable home at the puppy walking stage to kennels at the training stage put a severe strain on the dog's personality. My



solution has been to make Deana feel as secure as possible at all times and this seems to have worked out in practice. In all fairness, I must add that I took Deana to our vet, Mr. Michael Findlay, and he prescribed pills which undoubtedly helped to eliminate the wetting habit.

It is said that it takes about a year for a guide dog and its owner to become a good unit as regards work, but I believe this can be achieved in a much shorter time, say two or three months, if the blind person has previous experience. During the early stages, when the guide dog has to become accustomed to its new owner and to all his habits and idiosyncrasies and to learn a new area, things can go wrong. Let me give a fortunately isolated example.

### Hammersmith Bridge

On normal working days I walk from home to the underground station, crossing Hammersmith Bridge on the way. The bridge is being strengthened, the operation scheduled to last about two and a half years. Meanwhile, the pedestrian walks on either side of the bridge are closed and a new pedestrian walk has been built on the downstream side. It is cantilevered out from the bridge, is fairly narrow and there is a wire-mesh barrier on either side which to a dog must give the impression of being in something like an elongated cage. Moreover, the pedestrian walk shakes quite violently as the heavy traffic crosses Hammersmith Bridge, the wire-mesh rattles against the vertical struts and the whole arrangement chatters ceaselessly to itself in a low murmur. Sighted pedestrians have told me that they have been frightened by this new pedestrian walk. Deana was initially terrified. On our first crossing when the shaking began, she lay down flat with her tail between her legs. I had to lift her gently to her feet and persuade her that all was well before we went on. It took about five crossings of this bridge to reassure Deana that there really was no danger and ever since she has not minded at all, but meanwhile . . .

On my way from home I have first to cross a main road, turn left and then cross five minor roads on my way to the bridge. On the second or third morning of my approach with Deana we came to the



*Deana on her way back to St. Dunstan's after a free run at Paddington Green.*

first of the side roads and I gave the order 'forward' in the usual manner. It was raining slightly, there was a strong gusty breeze and aircraft passing overhead on their way to Heathrow—conditions which make orientation very difficult.

Then two things happened almost simultaneously. The first was that I realised we were taking rather a long time to cross that side road, and the second was that the lights a little further up the main road changed from red to green. The traffic started to thunder past us on both sides and I realised that we were stationary right in the middle of the main road. I stood there facing towards the bridge hoping that some clever little fellow with a taste for speed would not come tearing down the centre of the road, passing the other traffic. Fortunately nothing like that happened. I waited until the first flush of traffic had passed then I held up my right hand and the traffic



coming from the bridge stopped, and Deana and I walked slowly back to the pavement. I have little doubt that the reason we got into this predicament was that Deana was wanting to re-cross the main road and thus avoid coming up to Hammersmith Bridge.

I relate this incident because I want to make it clear that problems do arise when working a new guide dog. Fortunately time is very much on one's side and as the dog's confidence in its owner grows, so does the likelihood of dangerous situations diminish. One is often encouraged when undergoing training to let the dog pick the best line across any given road, but of course, ultimate control and responsibility rests with the owner. A good maxim, when things go wrong, is to look first for the fault in oneself. It should not be thought that mobility with a guide dog is unduly dangerous. I have walked in this way fourteen years, covering some 25,000 miles, and remain unscathed. Any kind of independent travel by the blind can be hazardous at times.

Deana has now been with me for a little over twelve months. She works well, and has always done so, except under the stimulus of apprehension or fear. The domestic problems, about which I have written, have greatly receded. She still chews, but not in the violent destructive way of a year ago. The wetting within the house has, touch wood, ceased.

I have made it clear that in my opinion the guide dog is the best mobility aid for a totally blind person, provided that the owner is suitably motivated, is reasonably fit in wind and limb and that conditions both at home and at the place of employment, if the owner works, are appropriate for keeping a dog. The service given by the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is absolutely first class, and I would like to express gratitude for the regular attention given to guide dogs, without charge, by members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Many thanks also to my wife for all the help she gives at home and elsewhere.

### **Devoted Service**

As time goes by the owner and dog become more and more attached to one another. On the owner's side this is partly due to the fact that these dogs are pleasant companions with fetching ways, but principally because they seem always ready and willing to go out in harness by day or night in any conditions of weather. They become more and more reliable and show a remarkable sense of responsibility towards their owners. It is this characteristic of devoted lifelong service that impresses me most of all. The nature of the dog is to be like that. Once the owner and dog have been able to establish mutual understanding and trust they can walk fast, walk safe, walk easy.

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### **MESSAGE FROM LADY FRASER**

This number of the *Review*, I know, will reach its readers all over the world before Christmas and I am therefore asking the Editor to publish this message for me.

I am not sending cards but I want you to know that you will all be in my thoughts over Christmas and in the New Year. I send greetings and my love to St. Dunstaners, their wives and families, to St. Dunstan's widows, to staff and ex-staff, and to all old friends. I hope each and every one of you will have a very happy Christmas and the best of luck in 1976!

**Irene Fraser**

### **ST. DUNSTAN'S FIRST BOWLING TOURNAMENT, 1975**

It is intended to hold a first St. Dunstan's Bowling Tournament from 1st to 5th December at Ian Fraser House. Bowling tournaments being played:

Singles:

St. Dunstan's men and St. Dunstan's women and wives of St. Dunstaners.

Doubles:

St. Dunstan's men and St. Dunstan's women, and Mixed Doubles.

All intending competitors should make application to Miss Bridger at Headquarters in the first instance for accommodation, and secondly to Mr. Carnochan for bowls entry forms. Applications to be made not later than 14th November.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Reminiscence and nostalgia were rife during September. During the month we happily welcomed our Hand-Amputees for their Reunion at Ian Fraser House, whilst nostalgia was the dominant theme at the Theatre Royal. Two plays were from the prolific pen of William Douglas Home—"The Reluctant Debutante", a comedy set in the fifties, and "The Dame of Sark". The former was amusing, but curiously dated—for attitudes within our society have undergone quite a revolution in the past twenty years. "The Dame of Sark" was set in war-time, and conjured up that period most vividly. It was both written and acted with quiet understatement which, combined with authentic settings and clothes, made it extremely effective. Anna Neagle, in the title role, gave a splendid performance.

An account of the Handless Reunion will be found elsewhere in this issue—may we just say that it was lovely to see those particular St. Dunstaners again, together with their wives and escorts. The ladies "went to town" with their evening dress and I think all would agree that Gwen Obern and Winnie Edwards looked charming. It was the all-talking, all-laughing, all-exhaustion show of the year—lovely!

On one or two occasions, the expected trips to the Races had to be cancelled, owing to wet weather. The final meeting of the year at Goodwood was abandoned before the card was completed, for the course became waterlogged; but nothing seems to dampen the ardour of your actual dedicated punter!

Visits were paid to our tried and trusted friends around Sussex on the Drives, and we found a new restaurant near Pulborough called "The Brown Owls" which met with general approval. Mr. Hardman, the owner of "The Arches" restaurant in Brighton, very kindly invited a party of St. Dunstaners to lunch, took them round the Aquarium, then back to his restaurant for tea. Everyone had a splendid time and we are most grateful to Mr. Hardman for his generosity and kindness.

Our Sunday evening entertainments were given on two occasions by V.A.D.s Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Lamb, whose choices

of records were much enjoyed. Our good friends "The Arena" presented an anthology of prose and poetry entitled "Things that go Bump", and used appropriate sound effects, which added to the eerie atmosphere.

One of the highlights of the year, as far as entertainment is concerned, is always the concert given by the "Not Forgotten" Association. The packed Lounge resounded with laughter and applause and there was a delightful warmth between artistes and audience. It was one of those evenings—all too rare!—when everything went according to plan. Even the number of ice-creams ordered worked out beautifully! Bob Fullard gave a sincere vote of thanks to Colonel Shoolbred, Miss Seeley, and all the artistes, which was supported enthusiastically by all those present. A few days later, Miss Seeley, who is the Hon. Sec. of the Association, wrote to say how very much the artistes had enjoyed playing to such a warm and receptive audience. Altogether it was a very happy evening.

It would perhaps be appropriate to conclude these Notes by paying a small tribute to two long-serving, and warmly-regarded members of the staff at Ian Fraser House, Mr. George Short and Mr. Joseph Ryszka. They both retired recently after being with St. Dunstan's for around thirty years. We regret their departure very much; they will be sadly missed. They both take with them our good wishes, our gratitude and our affection.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 2nd November 7.30 p.m.

**Concert given by "Renee and her Friends"**

Sunday, 9th November 7.30 p.m.

**Mr. Tom Eales presents "A Stereo Spectacular"**

Sunday, 16th November 7.30 p.m.

**Mr. P. Larson, of Clarges Hotel, will entertain at the Organ.**

Sunday, 23rd November 7.30 p.m.

**Concert given by the Arena Choir**

Sunday, 30th November 7.30 p.m.

**A Play-Reading by Mr. and Mrs. Lillie and Company**





*Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme presents a gold watch to Mr. Short.*

## STAFF RETIREMENT

### **Mr. George Short—Brighton Staff**

For thirty years Mr. Short has been on the staff of St. Dunstan's, and he retired on 30th September from his post as House Steward, Ian Fraser House. He joined the staff at Church Stretton in December 1945 as a Nursing Orderly, and when Ovingdean re-opened the following year he went there as an Assistant House Steward. He has been a House Steward

since November 1951, and has served St. Dunstan's loyally. Many St. Dunstaners will no doubt remember him from their visits to Brighton. On 3rd October Mr. Short was presented with a gold watch as a retirement gift from the Council of St. Dunstan's by Mr. Garnett-Orme, our Chairman.

We wish him a long and happy retirement.

## Well Done All

Three silver cups, and a gold plinth which is his for one year, have been won by Jeremy Holland, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hayward Holland* of Newton Abbot; we send him our congratulations.

Marion Ripley, daughter of *Fred and Peggy Ripley* of Wimbledon, has gained a B.A. Honours degree in French at Durham University, and has obtained a post at International House in Paris as a language teacher.

Jonathan Ripley has passed the final of the Institute of Bankers examination at Barclay's Bank.

Irene Sedman, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Sedman* of Bury, Lancs., has won a silver cup for horseriding with the disabled. The cup was awarded for endeavour, ability and her success in a Gymkhana. Irene, who has badly impaired sight, also won three rosettes; 1st, 2nd and 4th.

*Mrs. Margaret Stanway* of Macclesfield tells us that recently she has been elected Secretary of the Macclesfield Handicapped Club, and thus is a Committee Member of both the Blind and Handicapped Clubs in Macclesfield.



## PEMBROKE ARTISTS' EXHIBITION 1975

Pembroke Artists, the group who work in the studio at the home of Paul and Thelma Francia, held their annual Exhibition for 1975 in Portsmouth City Museum and Art Gallery. The Exhibition opened with a Private View on Friday 11th July, attended by the Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Portsmouth, together with members of the committee of Portsmouth Voluntary Association for the Blind and many of the Artists' friends. As usual, collections were made for the local Blind Association, Pembroke Artists' special charity, during the Exhibition and it is hoped that a good sum will be collected to add to the total so far reached of £165. Pictures on view depict many local scenes; there are also portraits in various media, together with compositions using a wide variety of form and material. A smaller Autumn Exhibition was held in the home of one of Mrs. Francia's students, and again a percentage of the proceeds went to the local Blind.

## Garden Prizes

### Balcombe, Sussex

In his local Flower and Vegetable Show *William Dunlop* of Balcombe, Sussex, won first prize for his Dahlia entries, second prize for his Beetroot and third prize for Tomatoes—not a bad score. He also had the pleasant task of judging the perfume of the roses on show.

### Headstone Horticultural Society

*Henry James Haskey* of Harrow Weald has proved his prowess as a gardener in the recent Headstone Horticultural Society flower competition. His prizes were:

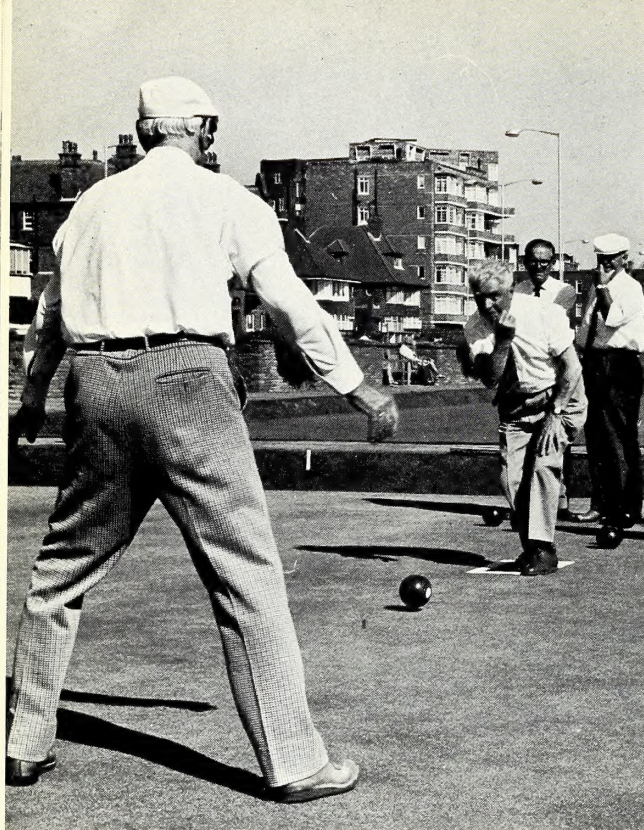
Gladioli	2nd prize
African Marigolds	2nd prize
Mixed Annuals	2nd prize
Miniature Flower Arrangement	2nd prize
Harrow in Bloom Front Garden	2nd prize
and Royal Horticultural Society Certificate	

*In the studio at the home of Paul and Thelma Francia, one of the students completes her painting in oils for the exhibition.*

Photo: The News, Portsmouth.







*Bert Davenport helps Harry Preedy send his wood down the lawn by clapping to aid his aim.*

## ON THE GREEN

On 27th August a bowling match was held between St. Dunstan's and Hove and Kingsway Bowling Club. A very pleasant afternoon was spent on the green. The weather was very nice, everybody enjoyed the game. After the game we were entertained to an excellent dinner in the Hove and Kingsway Club Rooms. Speeches of welcome to St. Dunstan's were made by Mr. E. Sutton, Chairman of Hove and Kingsway, and Mr. Bert Davenport of Hove and Kingsway, and Mr. Ted Frearson replied with a vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstan's. Later in the evening we were entertained by members of Hove and Kingsway Club and professional artists. A very good evening was had by all. After a few drinks and farewells the boys, wives and friends of St. Dunstan's made their way home.

**TED FREARSON**

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1932*

**Erewhon**

by Samuel Butler

*Read by David Dunhill*

*Reading Time 8¾ hours*

As a schoolboy, I had to "do" this book—presumably for the good of my soul. At that time, the experience was neither profitable nor elevating.

Whether from curiosity or plain masochism, I decided to give it one more chance. I am delighted that I did.

In the hands (or more correctly, the mouth) of such a practised reader as Mr. Dunhill, Butler's splendid rolling prose takes on a new elegance, his tongue-in-cheek irony and gentle satire are a real joy.

So if you, too, have "done" this book at school (and thought you'd left it for dead in consequence) why not try it "just one more time". The experience could be most rewarding.

*Cat. No. 1992*

**The Double-Cross System  
in the War of 1939-1945**

by J. C. Masterman

*Read by John Richmond*

*Reading Time 9 hours*

During the war, when enemy agents were picked up (in surprisingly large numbers, too, it would seem), they were usually given the option of changing sides and acting as double agents. Most of them accepted, from one motive or another. They were given very fetching *noms-de-guerre* like Gelatine, Fido, Treasure and Tricycle and set to work. Soon the whole German spy-ring was being controlled by British Intelligence.

Through these double agents misleading and false information was systematically fed to the enemy. The nice thing about it was that the unsuspecting Germans were feverishly pouring money into the UK to maintain their espionage system. Thus Operation Double-Cross was very largely financed by the Nazis themselves!



# Handless Reunion, 1975

The return home of the Handless Reunion to Ian Fraser House on Thursday, 25th September commenced with sherry and dinner in the Restaurant with Commandant, Matron Blackford, and our old friend Dr. O'Hara. This was a very pleasant start to what was a grand weekend.

Early on Friday morning we set off to the Royal Horticultural Society Garden at Wisley, Surrey. This was a strange adventure, so we first thought, but to everyone's surprise it turned out to be a most enjoyable and educational trip, with some wonderful meals supplied by the chef who is a son of a St. Dunstaner.

Saturday started with a meeting among ourselves in the Winter Garden with an evening trip to Eastbourne for a Variety Show and Dinner at the Congress Theatre which was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday, at the invitation of Lord and

Lady Astor of Hever, the afternoon and early evening were spent at Hever Castle, which we all found most interesting.

We were invited into Lord and Lady Astor's private apartments and chatted whilst having light refreshments. Then leaving Hever Castle we made our way to the Roebuck Hotel for dinner with Mrs. Dacre and Matron Blackford.

Monday afternoon was the time of our Domestic and Technical discussions in the Winter Gardens with Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme; Mr. Wills; Commandant; Dr. Fletcher; Mr. Dufton; Mr. French.

Our weekend finished with a Dinner in the Gold Room of the Eaton Hotel, Hove. Our afternoon's guests were there, and also Mrs. Williams.

We would like to thank Mrs. Williams for a most varied and enjoyable weekend.

E. HIGGS

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell William Ash* of Paignton, Devon (formerly of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset), are pleased to announce that their daughter, Carolyn Jane, was married to Paul Nicholas Mackey on 4th October.

*Mr. and Mrs. William Crombie* of Stoneleigh, Surrey, announce the marriage of their daughter Allison with Bernard Verblow at St. John the Baptist Stoneleigh Parish Church, on 20th September.

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Botly* of Worcester Park, Surrey, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 30th September.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Palmer* of Southery, near Downham Market, Norfolk, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 23rd September.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. James Spink* of Croxley Green, Hertfordshire, on their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 2nd September.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell William Ash* of Paignton, Devon (formerly of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset), on the birth of a grandson, Richard Maxwell, to their son David and daughter-in-law on 26th September.

*Walter Bick* of Leamington Spa, whose first grandchild, Joanna Mary, was born on 5th August to his daughter-in-law, and son Albert.

*Mr. and Mrs. Alan Moore*, of Oxhey, Herts, whose daughter Barbara Fry and son-in-law had their second child, Samuel Leon, on 21st August.

*T. "Jack" Simmons* of Southampton, whose first grandson, Ian Peter, was born on 25th September to his son Peter and daughter-in-law Elaine.

### Great Grandparents

#### We congratulate:

*Mr. and Mrs. Bob Finch* of Solihull on the birth of a great-grand-daughter, Michelle, on 19th September to their grand-daughter Ann Marie and her husband.



## Examination and Career Successes

### We offer our congratulations to:

Angela Miller, youngest daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Ted Miller* of Leamington Spa, who has passed the finals of the Central Midwives Board and is now working as Ward Sister at the Cowley Road Hospital, Oxford.

Carole Skellett, grand-daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Parker*, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, who has recently obtained 8 "O" levels. Carole has acted as escort while staying with her Grandparents in Brighton.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Miss Marjorie Ball* of Leeds, Yorkshire, on the death of her Mother on 7th September.

*Walter Andison* of London N.12, on the death of his wife Mrs. Mary Ellen Andison while on holiday in Brighton, on 11th September. Mrs. Andison also leaves children by her first marriage.

*Thomas Williams* of Brynmawr, Gwent, on the death of his wife, Elsie May, on 16th September.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following **St. Dunstaners** and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Alfred Walter Cook.** *Middlesex Regiment and Border Regiment*

Alfred Walter Cook of Canvey Island died in hospital on 26th September, aged 84 years.

He served in the First World War, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1968.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lily M. Cook, and two sons and their families.

**William Edmund Cook.** *11th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers*

William Edmund Cook died in Australia on 16th September. He was wounded in Italy in July 1918 while serving with the 11th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. Previously he had spent three years in the trenches in France. He was trained at St. Dunstan's, and later started a picture framing business in Hammersmith. Subsequently he joined his brother in running a poultry farm near Ely, but had to return to London on his brother's death shortly afterwards. For a time he was a joinery instructor at St. Dunstan's. Later he retrained to become a telephone operator, and worked in London until the end of the Second World War. In 1947 he decided to go to Australia; after spending a year in New Zealand he settled in East Doncaster, Victoria. Showing considerable perseverance, patience and determination he built a weather board house for his family. His efforts gained him the respect of many friends and neighbours.

He leaves a Widow, Mrs. Lilian Cook, two sons and a daughter in Australia and his eldest son in London.

**Henry Thomas Doyle.** *Royal West Kent Regiment*

Henry Doyle of Harefield, Middx., died on 29th September in Mount Vernon Hospital, aged 75. From 1915 to 1920 he served with the Royal West Kent Regiment. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1971.

He leaves two nieces, Mrs. Winifred Gibson and Miss Maud Doyle.

**Thomas William North.** *7th Lincoln Regiment*

Thomas William North, a permanent resident at Pearson House, died on 17th September at Pearson House. He was wounded while serving at Cambrai in April 1918, and after training at St. Dunstan's he returned to his home in Walsall in 1921 where he looked after poultry, did netting work and carpentry. At the latter he was particularly skilled. He became interested in sports and was also an active member of his local British Legion. He enjoyed visits to the St. Dunstan's camps, and the Blackpool and Brighton homes.

His wife died in 1948, but Thomas North remained at Walsall until 1961 when he became a permanent resident at Brighton.

**George Thomas Willey.** *Green Howards*

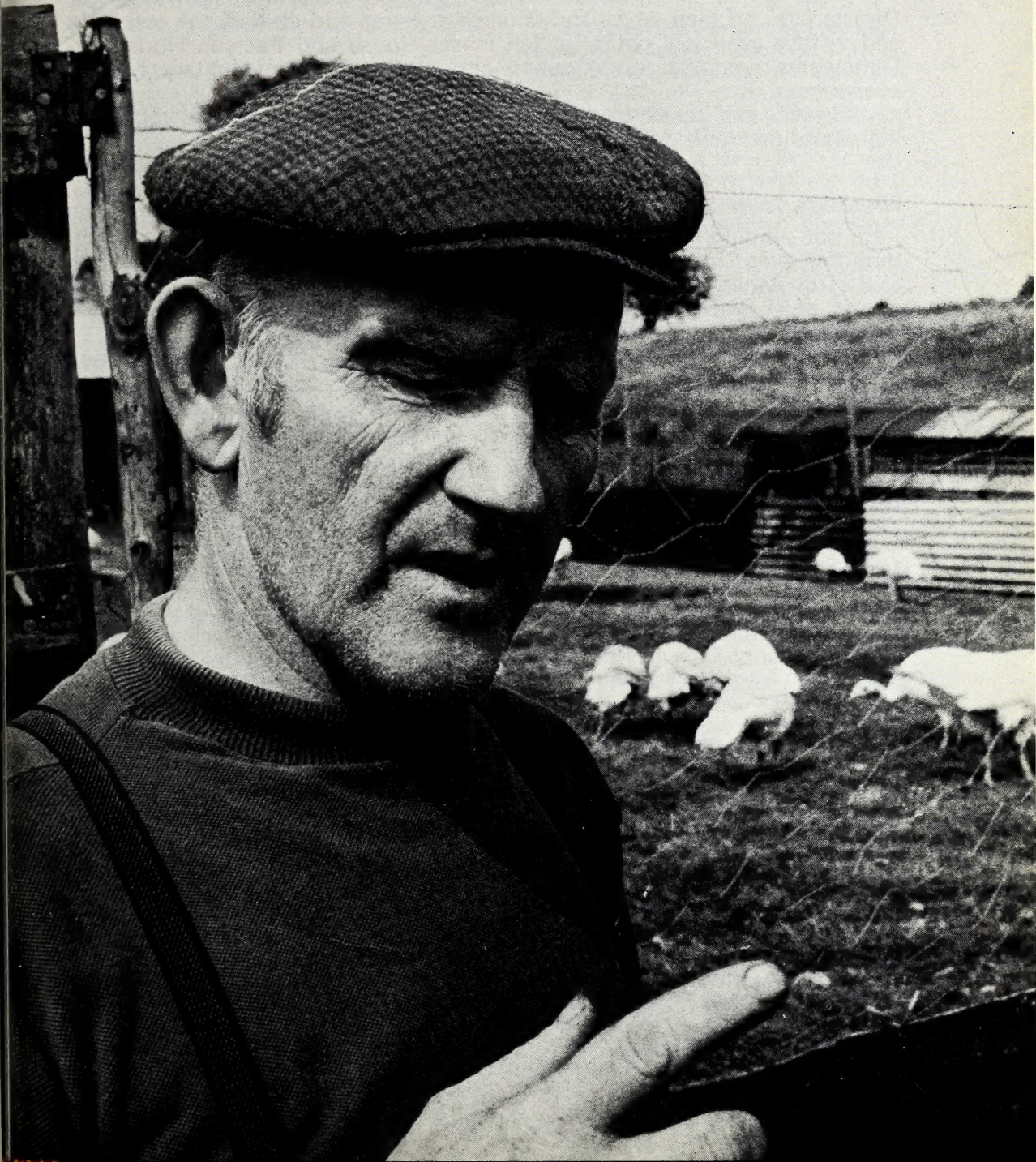
George Thomas Willey of Tile Sheds Farm, Welbury, near Northallerton, North Yorkshire, died on 3rd October in hospital at the age of 41.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1968, although his sight began to fail while serving with the Green Howards from 1952 to 1954. Carrying on the farming tradition of his family, he moved to his own smallholding in 1969, which with their help he cultivated and kept geese. For the past three years he was looked after by his housekeeper, Mrs. Ivy Kilbourn.

He leaves his mother, Mrs. Willey, his sister Mrs. S. Barker and other relatives.



**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**DECEMBER**





# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 669

DECEMBER 1975

10p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman

Christmas is always a special time for families and old friends and so I send my greetings to all those connected with St. Dunstan's: individual St. Dunstaners and their wives and families at home and abroad, the residents and visitors who will gather at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House, St. Dunstaners' widows, our Council and staff and our voluntary helpers everywhere.

My wife and I will think of you all on Christmas Day and wish you every happiness then and good fortune in the New Year.

**Ion Garnett-Orme**

## Message from Lady Fraser

I am not sending cards but I want you to know that you will all be in my thoughts over Christmas and in the New Year. I send greetings and my love to St. Dunstaners, their wives and families, to St. Dunstan's widows, to staff and ex-staff, and to all old friends. I hope each and every one of you will have a very happy Christmas and the best of luck in 1976.

**Irene Fraser**

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Joseph Francis Orrin** of Hove, Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's on 1st October. He served in the Northamptonshire Regiment during the 1st World War. He retired as an H.M. Inspector of Taxes in 1956, and is married with an adult daughter.

**Charles Stephen Shepherd** of Bosham West Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's on 13th October. He served in the A.C.C. during the Second World War, and in 1945 was invalided from the Army. He is married, and has an adult son.

**William Short** of Fakenham, Norfolk, joined St. Dunstan's in October this year. He served with the Royal Engineers in the First World War. He is married, with two grown-up children.

**Ernest Percival Wasser** of Rainham, Essex, joined St. Dunstan's on 13th October. At the outbreak of the Second World War he was employed at the Admiralty and joined the Hong Kong Dockyard Volunteer Defence Force. From Christmas 1941 he was a prisoner of war, in Hong Kong and subsequently in Japan, which seriously affected his health. After the war he spent a time in a Naval Hospital. He and his wife remained in Australia for thirty years and returned to the United Kingdom a year ago.

### Editor's Note:

*As many people this year are not sending Christmas cards, because of the high cost of postage, a separate greeting is enclosed and we hope St. Dunstaners and widows will accept this as a personal message from their friends on the staff.*



# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 1975

by Robert and Joyce Pringle

On Sunday, November 9th, headed by Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, who was flanked by a St. Dunstaner from each War, we marched to the Cenotaph.

We were a column of five men of the 1914-1918 conflict, thirty-three men of the 1939-1945 War, and one woman, Vi Delaney, together with our escorts.

## TWO MINUTES' SILENCE

Following the two minutes' Silence the Lord Bishop of London conducted the Service of Remembrance. At its conclusion we marched off the parade and rejoined the coach and were taken to the Great Western Royal Hotel for lunch. Here we were received by Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme and were truly delighted to see Lady Fraser as well. After some enjoyable conversation we sat down to lunch. At its conclusion Mr. Garnett-Orme proposed the Loyal Toast and led us in singing "God Save the Queen".

## CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

In his address the Chairman said:

"There are many things all ex-service-men and women have in common but I suppose one of the most fundamental is marching. We all have memories of marching in uniform on many occasions, some ceremonial, some dangerous, some cheerful, some sad; but through them all runs a feeling of pride, and I like to think it is pride of the best kind. One was proud of one's regiment or ship's company or squadron or of those who were chosen to take part in some big national parade.

"Today we have marched together in pride, thinking again, on another Remembrance Sunday, of all the fallen of two generations and of all those who suffered in so many ways through two world wars and other conflicts.

"For me, this morning's parade was particularly moving as it was the first time I had marched with you. All St. Dunstaners are one family and it was an honour for me to march with a rep-

resentative from each war and I am grateful to the two who agreed to join me, and to all of you who formed our contingent.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S REMEMBRANCE

**"Our family Remembrance Sunday, December 14th will soon be with us when the thoughts of all St. Dunstaners will turn with gratitude to those two great men, Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser of Lonsdale. The debt we owe them both is very great and we shall have this in mind on that day, together with our personal and much cherished memories.**

"On a personal note also, this morning held nostalgic reminiscences because during my army training before the War my Regiment was stationed at Wellington Barracks on several occasions. The first parade each morning was usually a drill parade to warm us up, no matter whether it was winter or summer. The sound of many pairs of army boots endeavouring to make holes in the parade ground, together with the thunderous commands of those splendid and immaculate drill sergeants, is a memory which lingers for the rest of one's life.

## A GIRL MARCHES

"I know that some of you have been to many of these parades while some are here for the first time and I welcome you all. Our contingent numbered 68 in all with 39 St. Dunstaners and 29 escorts, and staff. I would like to thank Mr. Wills for today's general organisation and Mr. Stevens and all the other helpers, who have helped us on the parade. For the first time we had a girl marching with us. It did cross my mind that it was International Women's Year. I don't know whether she was marching to assert her rights or to see the boys behaved themselves.

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**COVER PICTURE:** *Isaac Ostle on his turkey farm. See "Ways of Life" on centre pages.*



"I don't know how many of you know that Norman Smith retires at the end of this year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all he has done for us over the years and to wish him, and his wife, every happiness in the future.

"We are all so pleased that Lady Fraser has been able to be with us today and I know that she will want to meet as many as possible of you personally after lunch, as do my wife and I."

### **ALAMEIN REUNION**

The Chairman then introduced Jimmy Wright, who said, "A fortnight ago I was one of a party of St. Dunstaners who attended the Alamein Reunion. I mention it because Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer was the guest of honour and I am sure that those St. Dunstaners who were at the Alamein Reunion and who are here today, will agree that he gave us a very fine speech, it was rather like receiving our battle orders, but on this occasion the battle was against the problems that face our country today, and in particular, against those minority groups that seek to destroy those very principles, for which the battles for freedom were so hard fought. I feel it is appropriate to mention this today, because just as for the Alamein Reunion, we have gathered from all parts of the British Isles, indeed, we have a Frenchman with us among our numbers today, we welcome M. Raymond Kalitka. He has joined us in our humble tribute to those men and women, who were less fortunate than ourselves, and never survived the two Great Wars, and those wars of a different kind that have gone on over the past thirty years. For their sakes, it is up to us to keep the flag of freedom waving and squash those enemies that try to defeat us from within.

"Just before Christmas, as we all know, we received the very sad news that our Chairman, Lord Fraser, was no longer with us. At that time I remember thinking that it was hard to believe that barely a month earlier he had been leading us in such grand style at the Cenotaph Parade. Today, Mr. Garnett-Orme, our new Chairman, has also lead us in grand style, with Ernie Carpenter on the one arm and Tommy Gaygan on the other.

### **GOOD LUCK**

"I am sure we all wish Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme good luck for the future with the tasks that lie ahead of them with their work for St. Dunstan's.

"What a great joy it is to have Lady Fraser with us today, and long may she be able to join us at our reunions, whenever she feels well enough to do so.

"I am sure you would wish me to thank St. Dunstan's, and all the staff at Headquarters for making the arrangements that have made it possible for us to be here today.

"Our thanks also to the staff of the Great Western Hotel who have made us just as welcome as ever, and to the chef and his staff for such a splendid meal once again." Bill Harris rose to speak on behalf of the escorts. He said "We did our best to keep up with you. How great it was to be able to march behind a band again. I should like to say how proud we are to take part in the march along with St. Dunstaners."

Mr. Garnett-Orme then drew the formal part of the meeting to a close and general conversation followed.

### **ALL PARTS OF U.K.**

Men came from quite long distances to join us in this memorial service—Dennis Tufnell came from Bristol, David Moss from Christchurch, David Bell from Edinburgh, R. L. Austin from Elland, in West Yorkshire, Tom Hart from Folkestone and Cyril Womack from Leicester.

David Moss joined us on the march for the first time at the age of 82 as he only joined St. Dunstan's about a year ago. The other two first war men were George Smart from Oving, near Aylesbury, and C. B. Headland from London.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

An item of news from the Remembrance Day reunion that may interest Daedalus campers is that "Wiggy" Barnett will be retiring from the Fleet Air Arm in January 1976. He has been associated with St. Dunstaners since 1957 and has decided that he wants to take a course with the National Mobility Centre and become a mobility officer with Hampshire County Council. All St. Dunstaners will want to convey very best wishes for his success in the venture.



## OBITUARY

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### MRS. MARGARET G. LILLIE

The death of Mrs. Margaret Lillie on 8th November, after a most serious illness, came as a great shock to all those who knew her, including a wide circle of friends among our staff, and St. Dunstaners, for whom she had done so much and worked so hard over a long period of years.

The funeral service was held at St. George's Church, Kemp Town, on 14th November. Over 200 people were present, including the President of the National Food and Drink Federation and many other grocers, a number of local St. Dunstaners with their wives or escorts, and Matron Blackford from Ian Fraser House and Matron Hallett from Pearson House, each with eight St. Dunstaners in residence at our Homes. The Church was decorated with beautiful flowers.

The service was conducted by our St. Dunstan's Padre, the Rev. W. Popham Hosford, O.B.E., and we print below an extract from his sermon which undoubtedly sums up the feeling of all those who knew Margaret.

"Margaret Lillie, right to the end, had tremendous faith in Jesus Christ and she, in spite of her terrible pain, was given special strength to face life trusting in God. She was always glad to have a prayer, when she could be commended to God and she faithfully commended herself to Him, as she did right through her life.

"Margaret was a remarkable person and a really strong character. For the last eighteen years she raised money, first from the Brighton and Hove Grocers' Association and then from the Sussex Grocers' Association, to arrange a Summer Outing and later in the year the Dinner and Dance for St. Dunstan's. The Summer Outing was a great success and they went to many places, including a trip on the river and St. Dunstaners used to come especially down to Brighton to stay, not only for the Outing but also for the Dinner and Dance. She ran these occasions in a most businesslike way and it was all greatly appreciated. She also

found time to visit quite a number of St. Dunstaners and their wives, especially if anyone was sick. Not only did she care for the work of St. Dunstan's, she looked after the Grocers' Benevolent Fund and visited many of those who were old, sick and ailing, and was able to give them something to help them. She did this without fuss or bother and quietly saw to their needs. She was quite a remarkable woman. In so many ways she looked after her family and those other associations.

"It is very sad that Margaret's physical presence has been taken away but she still will be with you in spirit, especially at home.

"We offer our very deepest sympathy to her husband, son and daughter. She was such a character, she must be called to wider service and we cannot but believe in the resurrection of the dead when we think of her. Neither death, nor life shall separate her, or us, from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus."

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### MR. H. J. HOULGATE

We regret to report the death on 14th October of Mr. H. J. Houlgate. St. Dunstan's was represented at the funeral, which took place on 22nd October, at Tunbridge Wells, by Mr. and Mrs. Norman French and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gayan.

Mr. Houlgate joined the B.B.C. in November, 1946, as Senior Engineer in the Engineering Designs Department. He retired in August, 1970, by which time he was Head of Sound Recording Section.

Mr. Houlgate had close ties with St. Dunstan's, becoming Chairman of the Experimental Devices Committee at Lord Fraser's invitation in the early 1960's—a post he held until his death. His specialised knowledge in the recording and broadcasting fields made a valuable contribution to the Committee's work.

He was a regular member of the technical panel at all Handless Reunions held at Ovingdean and, more recently, Mr. Houlgate had been appointed to the Technical Sub-Committee of the British Talking Book Service for the Blind.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From: Walter Thornton, O.B.E.,  
Birmingham**

Those who are aware that Robin Buckley and the Editor of the *Review* are one and the same person may well wonder whether "Better than One" was meant to be taken literally, or be regarded as an attempt to stir up correspondence. Certainly, one welcomed the appearance, none too frequent in the *Review*, of an article on the very important subject of mobility.

The article would have been better, however, if it had restricted itself to the writer's enthusiasm for his guide dogs, and avoided ineffective and inadequate comparisons with other mobility aids. The choice of a mobility aid for a blind person is an individual affair. There is as little point in comparing mobility aids in the abstract as there is in arguing about whether dogs or cats make the better pets.

If, however, one does make comparisons as Robin Buckley did—and comparisons are said to be odious—then one should not compare a fully trained and experienced guide dog owner with an inexperienced long cane user whose training was compressed and improvised.

If one is talking of the binaural sensor—now incidentally, referred to as the sonic guide—one should not write it off on the basis of one situation which is not relevant to the purposes for which the aid was designed.

The guide dog movement has made a wonderful contribution to the welfare of the blind. Nevertheless, the limitations of the guide dog mean that it will never be more than an aid for a small fraction of the blind population; e.g. less than two per cent in Britain after more than forty years of provision.

What Robin Buckley failed to mention is that the system of training represented by the long cane has something of value to offer to the widest cross-section of the blind population, from very young to extremely old. Fortunately, the spread of mobility officers around the country

means that training based on the long cane system is now available to most St. Dunstaners in their own home area. An expanding number of St. Dunstaners are now availing themselves of this opportunity of making life easier and better for themselves, and joining the five thousand or so blind people in Britain who have already done this.

## Editors Note;

*Thanks for your contribution, Walter, but what is choice without comparison?*

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**From: Phillip Wood, Crewe,  
Cheshire**

Congratulations on your article "Better Than One" in the *Review*. I thoroughly enjoyed it—as indeed did my wife. It was easy to read and informative.

I think it a pity the article couldn't have a much wider readership, which would do much to correct many misconceptions which still exist on the subject of guide dogs.

I fully share your admiration for the Association. We lived for three years in Leamington Spa, quite close to the Guide Dogs Centre. We became friendly with the members of the staff. They were all splendid people deserving of that much overworked word 'dedicated'.

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**From: Ray Benson, Farnborough**

Having just spent a very enjoyable holiday at Ian Fraser House with its excellent facilities I should like to thank all members of the staff for making such a holiday possible. Also, Tammy, my guide-dog sends her thanks, she thought retrieving golf balls after they had been carefully putted good fun.





*After his investiture with the Queen's Police Medal, our new St. Dunstaner Charles McConaghy talks to Lord Clanwilliam, Her Majesty's Lieutenant for Co. Derry. With them are Charles' wife, Lottie and daughter Barbara.*

## MOBILITY ALLOWANCE

St. Dunstaners may have heard of the announcement of this new allowance, which is being introduced next January and will be payable to all disabled persons who qualify. Not a great deal of publicity has been given to the subject, and the allowance is of doubtful benefit to the vast majority of St. Dunstaners.

Those Beneficiaries who have been issued with what is known as a Ministry Car will have received two leaflets, and will have realised immediately that it will be better for them to retain the car rather than opt for the Mobility Allowance.

St. Dunstaners receiving the car maintenance allowance, plus the Excise Duty, worth in total £140 net per annum, may be considering opting for the Mobility Allowance which would be a cash benefit of £5.00 a week, taxable at the standard rate of income tax, which working St. Dunstaners would be paying, and would be worth £169.00 in their hands. There is always the possibility of the Excise Duty being increased with successive Budgets, but it seems clear from information now published that the Mobility Allowance will remain at the rate of £5.00 a week gross for some years. St. Dunstaners in receipt of the car

maintenance allowance would be well advised to retain it, especially if they are paying tax.

Reverting to the opening remarks of this note, the allowance will be introduced in stages over a three year period. The first group of people to receive the benefit will be aged 15 to 50 years, children of 5 to 14 come next and finally people aged over 50 but *under 60 years for women and 65 years for men*. The medical conditions for entitlement to the allowance are quite stringent; basically the applicant must be unable, or virtually unable, to walk because of a severe physical disablement, and be likely to remain so for at least a year. It goes without saying that the applicant must be able to use the allowance; that is to say, he must not be permanently confined to the house, hospital or like institution.

Should St. Dunstaners, their wives and the widows of St. Dunstaners feel they might qualify for the allowance, they should obtain from their local office of the Department of Health and Social Security Leaflet NI 211 which also contains an application form.

**L. A. Slade,**  
*Pensions Officer.*



# HARROGATE BRIDGE WEEK

Harrogate Bridge Week, which was held from 13th to 20th September was indeed a week to remember. We had travelled overnight from Scotland and arrived at the Dirlton Hotel around noon. When the rest of the party arrived after having journeyed from King's Cross to Harrogate Station they were met by our good friend Mr. Norman Green.

After our delicious evening meal we played our first match on the Saturday night. We soon felt quite at home at the Civil Service Club. The following evening, Sunday, we played at the Harrogate Bridge Club for the St. Dunstan's Cup. This was won by Mrs. M. Campbell, Mr. D. A. Rayner and Mr. and Mrs. A. Eisen (members of the Harrogate Bridge Club).

Monday night saw us entrenched at the Knaresborough Golf Club, and on Tuesday afternoon we joined our friends at the Ripon Bridge Club where our wives had an open invitation to join in the Bridge Drive. We all thoroughly enjoyed this. On the same night we were entertained by I.C.I. in their canteen at Hookstone Road.

Wednesday afternoon found us at the Bradford Bridge Club after which the Steward and his wife gave us a marvellous tea, with tasty little pies and gorgeous sandwiches. We especially appreciated this as it meant that we did not have to return to our Hotel but instead went direct for our evening engagement which was at the Oakdale Golf Club, organised by our friend Norman Green. Our wives were also invited to the Oakdale Golf Club.

## Highlight Lunch

One of the highlights of our visit was the lunch on Thursday at the Drovers Inn. Mr. Wills from H.Q. and also many of our Harrogate friends attended. Bob Evans gave the toast to "absent friends"; Frank Rhodes, who had been here so many times in his long association with the London and Brighton Clubs; on this day, too, we missed Alf Field. Alf was especially in our hearts as we remember the legacy he left us, the legacy of the Bridge Club and this Harrogate Week,

which he was instrumental in introducing to St. Dunstaners. A wonderful welcome was given us that same evening at Crimple House.

Friday night was our "At Home" night. A jolly evening where we returned hospitality to our many friends with twelve tables of Bridge. Vi Delaney graciously presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Pritchard, the secretary of the Harrogate Bridge Club, in appreciation of the great work she had done in giving us a week which we shall always remember. Then Blodwyn Simon presented our Hotel Manageress, Mrs. Slater, with another bouquet for the wonderful way she and her staff had looked after us all. Bob Evans gave a speech in which he thanked all our Harrogate friends for our marvellous week and also Norman Green for organising our Bridge Drive.

## Tournament Director

Thanks were also due to our old friend Wally Burgess who had played the role of tournament director at the Civil Service Club, and also Hoppy for a happy Sunday lunch time.

Saturday morning was a scramble, but with Joe Kennedy and Norman Smith around we had no worries as regards our departure. We do appreciate the fact that Ada (Hoppy's wife) always comes to the station to see us off. Our return journey was as smooth as the Harrogate Week, no small thanks to Joe and Norman. I am looking forward already to the 1976 Harrogate Week, and, I am sure, so are all the other "boys".

R. PACITTI

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## 150th ANNIVERSARY

From Wales *Douglas Howard*, Crose-y-Ceillog, Cwmbran, Gwent, writes: "My wife and I are thrilled to have been invited by my old Regiment, the R.E., to attend the 150th anniversary of the forming of the 16th Field Squadron, to be held at Osnabruck from November 20th to 23rd."

We shall look forward to a full report!



# BRIDGE NOTES

## BRIGHTON

We are now in the midst of a busy season for St. Dunstan's Brighton bridge players, having defeated Saltdean CA Bridge Club, and Rottingdean Whiteways, as well as being challenged by a team of local Rottingdean ladies. Horsham Bridge Club, however, proved too strong for us on Sunday 12th October in a 12-a-side match, when St. Dunstan's was trounced.

On Saturday 18th October, with fewer players than our usual muster, we held a bridge drive in the Annexe. Illness and the rival claims of the Ham Radio week-end together drew off some of our regular players.

We were fortunate in having been able to secure the services of Mr. Arthur Salmon, of Seaford Golf Club, to run the drive for us and in addition to welcome his wife, Yvette.

### Results

- 1 F. Griffie & Miss M. Stenning
- 2 C. Walters & Mrs. Y. Salmon
- 3 S. Webster & Mrs. E. Gover

To add to our enjoyment of the afternoon, Matron Blackford kindly came along to present the prizes and took the opportunity of greeting all of us with our wives and friends.

*R. FULLARD*  
*Secretary*

### Individual Competition

We regret the error whereby the Ninth Individual Competition, held on Saturday, 4th October, was referred to as the "Sixth", and hope that this has not caused confusion!

## LONDON

The ninth and final Individual Competition of the London Section for the Gover Cup for 1975 came to its conclusion on Saturday, 1st November.

### Results

R. Evans and W. Allen	73
F. Dickerson and J. Lynch	70
H. Meleson and P. Nuyens	63
J. Huk and R. Stanners	61
J. Majchrowicz and Miss V. Kemmish	57
W. Miller and Partner	54

### Best five cumulative results

W. Allen	362
J. Huk	355
F. Dickerson	349
W. Miller	340
P. Nuyens	339
J. Lynch	337
H. Meleson	311
A. Caldwell	305
J. Majchrowicz	303
Miss V. Kemmish	301
J. Padley	(after 4 matches) 253
R. Evans	(after 3 matches) 175
W. Phillips	(after 2 matches) 144
H. King	(after 1 match) 69
R. Stanners	(after 1 match) 61

*H. MELESON*  
*Secretary*

## THE LATE HILDA KENNEDY

It was a very sad occasion when on Friday 7th November *Joe Kennedy*, followed by his relations, friends and neighbours, entered the Chapel of Woodvale Crematorium to the sound of "Lead Kindly Light". They were paying their last tribute to Joe's dear and devoted wife, Hilda, so suddenly taken from him. Amongst the mourners from St. Dunstan's were Matron Blackford; Matron Hallett, escorting *Frank James; John and Mrs. Walker and Paul Nuyens*, escorted by Norman Smith. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Joe and to his daughter and grand-daughter.

## GREEN FINGERS

*Thomas Henry Wilson* of Shafton, near Barnsley, Yorkshire, is another of our prizewinning St. Dunstaners when it comes to gardening; in local Horticultural Shows recently he has won two first prizes; three second prizes and one third prize.

## PIGEON RACE CHAMPION

*Sidney Latham*, of Worcester who is 79, has recently won the local Challenge Cup for championship pigeon racing. We congratulate him! He has the assistance of his wife and a friend in this fascinating hobby, to clock the birds for him.



# CLUB NEWS

## BRIGHTON

In my note in the November issue of *The Review*, I wrote that the new St. Dunstan's Social and Sports Club in the Brighton area was open to St. Dunstaners living permanently in Brighton and surrounding areas and that membership might be extended to St. Dunstaners outside Sussex who are not already members of a St. Dunstan's Club.

It is thought that these conditions may be too restrictive and it has been decided that all St. Dunstaners, wherever they may reside, will be eligible for membership of the Club on payment of the annual subscription of £1.00.

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, St. Dunstan's Social and Sports Club, Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean, Brighton, Sussex, BN2 7BS, to whom all correspondence concerning the Club should be addressed.

**ELIZABETH DACRE**  
*President*

## MIDLAND

On Friday evening, 10th October, we went along to High Duty Alloys Ltd., Redditch, for a game of Skittles. We had a very warm welcome, and were soon made to feel quite at our ease.

Mr. Hancocks extended hospitality, and then he and my wife Joan arranged two teams, one from H.D.A. and the other from the Midland Club. We had a marvellous night, although we were not able to play as much skittles as we would have liked since some of our party got lost on the way there and thus were delayed. Nevertheless, we all enjoyed ourselves, and at about 9.30 p.m. some of the ladies of H.D.A. uncovered a table loaded with a most gorgeous buffet at which we were their guests.

We have not had such wonderful hospitality for many years. At the end of the evening we presented the two ladies from H.D.A. who had made the highest score at skittles with a tray and a stool, made by Norman Maries. We are hope-

*Members of the new Brighton Club Committee in session. The ladies are (l.-r.) Miss F. Ramshaw, Mrs. E. Dacre, President, and Mrs. J. R. Dennis, Secretary. The St. Dunstaners are: M. A. Dodgson M. W. Phillips, J. Walker, H. Preedy and J. Frearson, Chairman.*





Sunday 12th October was the usual monthly meeting day; the meeting was completely taken over by Eddie and Marjorie Hordyniec, who were celebrating their Silver Wedding—they had insisted on putting on the tea for us that afternoon. What a beautiful spread it was, Marjorie had certainly worked hard, for it was nearly all home-made. After tea had all been cleared away everyone had a tot of something or other to toast Marjorie and Eddie with, and we certainly did that. Their Anniversary was actually on 21st October, and we all wish them both all the very best and a further happy 25 years.

Joan, my wife, has now nearly completed her Christmas card sales, and it has done very well—the profits will go a long way towards paying for our Christmas dinner this year.

The tea for this meeting was prepared for us by Mrs. Cath Androlia; a lovely home-made spread once again, for which we thanked her with a hearty round of applause.

All the members, their wives and escorts, send Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all St. Dunstaners, their wives, families and friends, and to all members of St. Dunstan's staff.

## LONDON

Several St. Dunstaners and wives gathered in the Club Rooms on Thursday evening, 31st October, in order to say goodbye to Betty and George Stanley who are moving from the London district. Although

Domino winners during the month of October were as follows:

30th October	1	W. Miller
	2	J. Huk

And then there are the Christmas cards. The Post Office plays an important part in our lives. Henry VIII used to employ special members to take his letters to all parts of the country. In charge of the service was the Master of the Posts. At first only the King's mail was carried, but as far back as Elizabeth I, ordinary people were allowed to send letters by mail. Before the Penny Postage came into its own in 1840, the person receiving the letter had to pay! I suspect the time has come again and people will think twice before sending letters and Christmas cards.

“God bless our meate,  
God guide our ways,  
God give us grace,  
Our Lord to please,  
Lord long preserve in

and health

Our gracious Queen Elizabeth."

Best wishes for Christmas  
and then a lot more  
for a happier New Year  
than ever before.

W. MILLER



## WAYS OF LIFE 27

### NOT JUST A LIVING—Isaac Ostle

#### Talking to David Castleton

*The beginning of it all, Isaac shows the size of a turkey egg. (opposite)*

To hear Isaac Ostle talk about his boyhood days working on a farm is to wonder why he was not put off agriculture for life. Yet he carries on his dawn-to-dusk work on his turkey farm, Simonscales Mill, near Cockermouth in Cumberland, despite the loss of an arm as well as his sight and asserts that any other life, "would kill me in six months".

Isaac's farming memories go back to the days of Martinmas and Whitsuntide fairs in Cockermouth when farm workers, for half a crown down, 'gave word' to work for a period of six months—for £8 paid at the end of the term!

"I was born in 1920, about four miles from here—a place called Great Broughton. My grandfather kept three or four cows and all my family, as we grew up, had to go and help my grandfather. He was a wicked old—you know what I mean. We were all scared stiff of him but we had to go. I was eight years old when I was learned how to milk cows—the hard way.

"I was working for an uncle at 11 years old—getting up at quarter past five in the

mornings. I had two miles to go to bring in the cattle across the fields, through the woods. I brought them back, helped to milk them. I got my breakfast. I took these cattle back two miles to the field. I came back, my auntie used to clean my shoes and off I used to go to school."

In those days it was either farmwork or the coalmines and Isaac was determined not to follow his father into the pit. "I was too much interested in farm stock." He worked three years for his uncle at 2s. 6d. a week until he left school. "I went to my first farm place at Martinmas, as we call it, in the November. A farm in Broughton Village, just around the corner from where we lived. We just used to get paid once a six months, you didn't get paid every week and I went from November until May the following year, that was the term, for £8."

"I was fourteen years old and responsible for 164 head of cattle, on top of that I had to go out in the fields and work. We started about half-past five—we were not even allowed to fasten our boots until after we got the stock fed in the mornings





and got the milking done." Their working day went on until 8.0 in the evening—at harvest time Isaac remembers coming through the village with the last load of corn or hay at midnight, with a storm lantern hanging on the axle of the cart. "Work? If the present generation today had that to do, they would die in the thought of attempting it."

Just as the war changed the life of the agricultural worker it changed Isaac's through his wounds. After service on light anti-aircraft guns in Britain, Isaac's unit went into Europe after D. Day, converted into tanks for infantry support, fought at Caen and later entered Germany from Belgium. It was at a place called Horne that Isaac, to use his words, stuck his neck out "ower far".

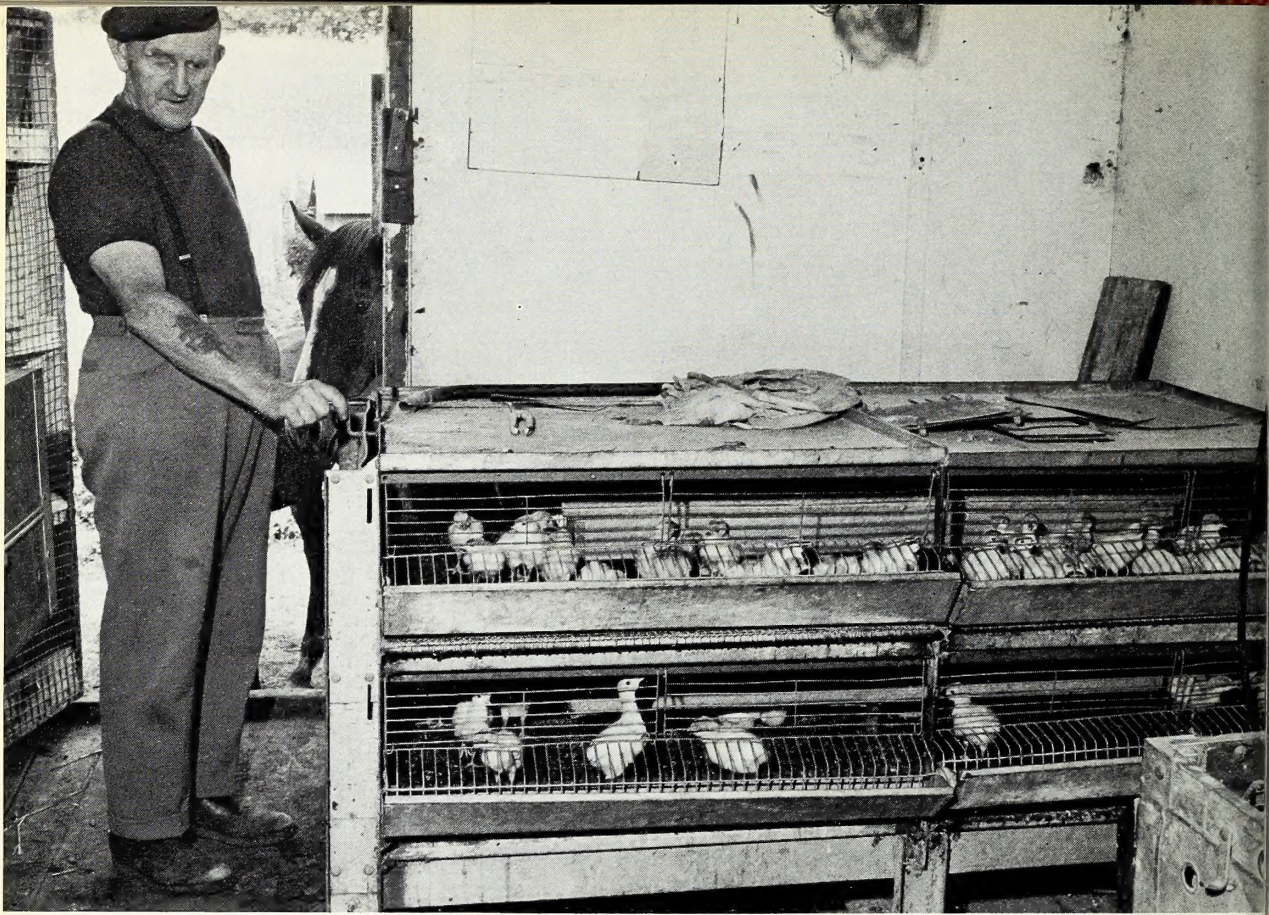
It was October 1945 when he left Stoke Mandeville and in December he became a St. Dunstaner. Despite his memories of the "slave markets" as he calls those fairs in Cockermonth, his first months as a St. Dunstaner were spent convincing officials that although he had only one arm, he

could still work on the land. "I knew from Stoke Mandeville days that I wanted to go on poultry simply because agricultural work was my life."

Isaac proved his point over a fortnight's trial period at St. Dunstan's farm at South Mimms—he put his artificial arm on and wheeled barrows loaded with materials; he mixed the poultry food. During his subsequent training he coped with every demand—only refusing point blank to milk a goat. After all, he had been milking cows when he was eight! "If you think I'm going to lower myself milking a goat you've got another think coming", said the forthright Isaac, and he didn't. He did not mind taking over the other St. Dunstaners' duties at weekends, however, because his own journey, some 300 miles, was too long to permit him to visit home.

Isaac and his family took over at Simon-scales Mill twenty-six years ago. At peak times of the year he may have anything up to 1,000 turkeys ranging from day-old chicks he raises himself to 14 weeks, plus some older birds for breeding stock. He





*Two-day to week-old chicks, or poults, in the brooder. Isaac is adjusting the height of the heater.*



has the help of his son Michael at evenings and weekends.

"No praise can be big enough for the part my wife has played and the help she has given me over the years. If I were sick or had to be away I could confidently leave the work in her capable hands. The same applies to my family who, as they grew up, have also given me a lot of help."

"Starting from March as the mornings get lighter, my day starts earlier; the nights get later, it's later when I get to bed. In the mornings I've got to get out early to the young chicks; at night I can't get to bed until all the turkeys go to bed and in most cases I have to put them to bed. I've got to chase them in!

*From these ten-week old turkey hens, Isaac will choose his breeding stock for next year.*



"They're long days during the summer but not hard work—time-taking work. I think it's the type of work where a lot of people would get fed-up very quickly because they wouldn't have the patience to do it. Some people say I'm impatient, I like to think I am a patient bloke. I am a very optimistic bloke".

The turkey farmer's year starts in March when the birds start to lay their eggs. "A fortnight, three weeks previous to this I will put the male bird in with the females. This is because you must allow fourteen days to elapse before you start collecting your eggs to put in the incubator, to make sure that the fertility is there".

"Each week I will probably have 250 eggs going into the incubator. This goes on every week from March until August". The eggs go in on a Sunday night and collection goes on from Sunday to Sunday. The incubator is about nine feet square and six feet high and the eggs are loaded into trays which slide into the racks. A lever outside the incubator tilts the trays, "Once you get your eggs in, you close your door, you get hold of your

lever and you pull it over this way. It tilts your trays and you must turn them at least five times a day."

The way the eggs are packed is important. "I used to just put all the eggs on the trays lying on their side. I found a lot of the chicks, instead of coming out of the broad end were chipping out at the point and they couldn't get out and consequently they died. This chap who used to have the poultry farm up there, he said stand the eggs up on the point and you'd have a far better hatch. This little bit of advice resulted in our percentage going up; from about 72%-73% it has reached 91% this year."

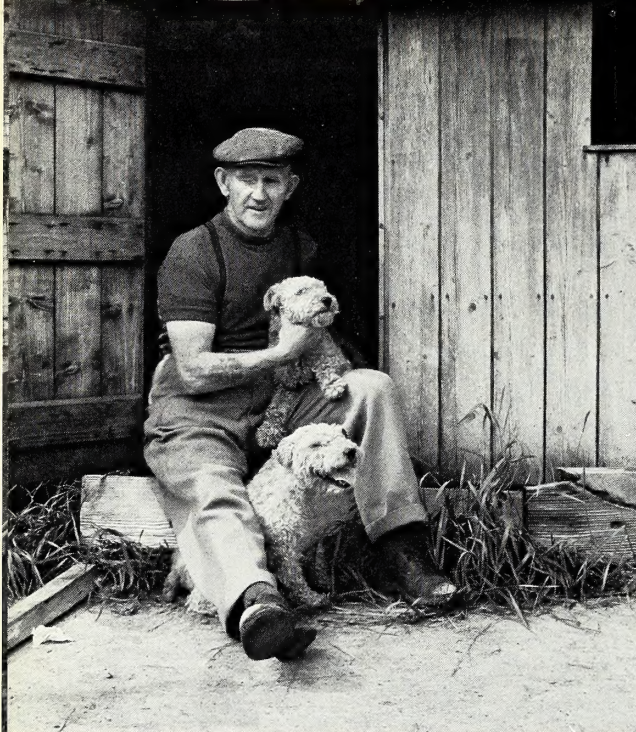
To achieve 90% plus success means spotting the damaged eggs before they go into the incubator. Isaac's method is to wash the eggs himself, "By having them in the water I can feel the crack when it's wet—I couldn't feel it if it was dry."

As each weekly batch of eggs nears the end of its 26 day incubation period Isaac moves them, "We take them out of the top compartment and we take all these eggs off and put them on another tray. We stand

*With the help of his wife, Sheila, Isaac selects a breeding bird. He uses his sense of touch to detect the shape of the head and breast and to feel for cuts or defects.*







*Isaac with two of the lakeland terriers he breeds as a hobby.*

them all up on their point and there's a lid goes over the top of this tray. We put them back into the incubator—not where they've been for the past three weeks but we put them in the bottom of the incubator which is called the hatcher. Down there are separate trays filled with water because we've got to keep the correct moisture to help the hatch. As they come out they run about in their trays and while they're there they're also getting dry. I give them from Friday to Monday. Anything that's not out by Monday morning—they've either died in the shell or the eggs are rotten. But if the eggs are rotten you will know it before Monday!"

The young chicks go from the incubator to a heated brooder. "The heaters on that, I wind up and down. I bring them lower down to start with to give me 90° and then each week I raise it to give me 80° and 70° Now they are a tip-top brooder. Since I got that it has cut losses quite a lot."

From the brooder the two-week old birds go to the 'electric hen' in another hut. Isaac describes this ingenious heater: "If you could imagine a baker's bread tray on one side—it's just a few pieces of wire, preferably part of an electric blanket, covered by a piece of canvas—there is

your heater. They're very, very low on power. Takes very little to run them."

For the first 24 to 48 hours of their lives, the chicks need no food, then they start off on baby chick crumbs. "There are different types. We get the dearer type because it's got all the extra vitamins in it and the antidotes for the various diseases you are up against. To me it is better to pay a little extra for this type of food. You save in the long run. You are getting a better quality bird to sell."

Isaac sells many of his birds at a month old to local farmers and others who wish to raise turkeys. His birds are well-known and when he advertises they are available, there is no shortage of buyers. "The telephone is just constantly ringing. A lot of people are customers that have been coming for a number of years."

The last turkeys sold go out in September, apart from breeding stock and 150 birds Isaac keeps for his own Christmas trade, mostly local individual buyers. "Michael is working at the British Leyland factory—he might get quite a few orders there. My daughter works at the North Western Electricity, she comes with orders."

### **Christmas is Organised**

It takes 2½ days, using a plucking machine, to pluck all the birds for Christmas. "It takes four of us to pluck and then we all get together and do the dressing part of it. After that they are all packed up in plastic bags, weighed and named and then they're all delivered. I've got it all organised." Killing that quantity of turkeys is in itself quite an operation, but Isaac has the farmer's unsentimental attitude to livestock: "I am what I would call a straightforward country life man. I haven't any thoughts whatsoever about killing that bird. No thoughts whatsoever. Let's say it is unfortunate for the bird."

It is a hard-working life Isaac has chosen for himself; I asked if it is profitable. "No, I can't say that I'm making a living—it's a hobby. I get a little cash out of it but most of all I get contentment. I don't begin to think of being miserable. I'm happy and content and when I leave Simonscales, I'll be in a box."

He may not make a living there in the beautiful riverside setting of Simonscales but Isaac Ostle has done something better—he has made his life.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1416

## The Longest Mile

by Rena Gazaway

Read by Marvin Kane

Reading Time 16 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours

This is the account of a long and detailed study of the life-style of isolated communities in the Appalachians in East Kentucky, the "hill-billies" of fiction. They must surely be among the most socially, economically and culturally deprived white people on earth.

They exist at bare subsistence level on Welfare Aid. There are no roads, piped water or sanitation. They live in tumble-down one-roomed shacks, often ten or more in the family. They have no native culture or skills of any kind, they are dirty and illiterate. Close inbreeding perpetuates physical and mental infirmities. There is no hope for them. They are being left there to decay.

Over the years millions of dollars have been poured into various schemes to help the disadvantaged. Dr. Gazaway claims that most of the money has been swallowed up in publicity and too-high salaries. Little, if any, ever filters down to the people for whom it is intended.

I must confess that this book can't be everybody's idea of cosy reading. On the other hand, if you're interested in learning, at first hand, how the other half lives—and you can stand a few statistics, you might find it most interesting. I certainly did.

Cat. No. 932

## Strumpet City

by James Plunkett

Read by Robert Gladwell

Reading Time 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  hours

The "Strumpet City" is Dublin, British Dublin in the early part of this century, a city torn by the bitter violence of labour unrest. Barefoot children scavenge for food in the dustbins while the men are idle, either on strike for a living wage, or locked out by the masters, determined to starve them into submission. There are

riots and frequent clashes with authority. Police are employed to beat-up the "trouble-makers".

The book is almost Dickensian in its treatment of savage social injustice and its effect on innocent victims. The characters are very real and marvellously drawn. There is Mary, the gentle little servant girl, sacked for "going out with a young man", and "Rashers", destitute philosopher, living, and dying, in a rat-infested cellar.

This is a wonderfully graphic account of ordinary people caught up in the violence of change and their courageous struggle for decency, dignity and nationhood.

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## FREE TAPE-RECORDED LIBRARY

A long list of titles of recorded books, lent free of charge, is available from:

Mr. Ron Hall,

26 Laggan Road,

Maidenhead, Berkshire

St. Dunstaners are invited to take advantage of this service.

## IN TOUCH BULLETIN

A quarterly bulletin summarising information broadcast on the weekly Radio 4 "In Touch" programme is being produced by the B.B.C. To this end, £400 annually is being made available to the B.B.C., of which sum St. Dunstan's is providing £100.

St. Dunstaners who wish to receive the "In Touch" Bulletin should write to the B.B.C. "In Touch" office, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA. They should send with their letters four envelopes, size 9 in. by 4 in., each bearing their name and address and a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ p stamp. They will then be supplied with the January, April, July and October 1976 copies of the Bulletin.

St. Dunstaners who wish to receive the "In Touch" Bulletin in Braille should write to the Scottish Braille Press, Craigmillar Park, Edinburgh, EH 16 5NB. No charge will be made as Braille literature travels free in the United Kingdom.



## THE PROFILIST—by His Better Half

Tonight is the night, and at 11.20 p.m. precisely, millions—well at any rate one-and-a-half millions (if they wake up all the babies and hide all the sleeping tablets) of Ulster people will lay down their arms—the Extremists that is—set aside their newspapers and watch "Humphrey's Half-Hour"; the story of "How I came to be called Stinker", by the Maestro himself.

It has all been most interesting, but I cannot tell how long it will take for him to get back to earth, and the situation certainly hasn't been helped by the small girl next-door-but-one who wrote an essay about him entitled "The Most Interesting Person I have Met".

The day David Dunseith, a free-lance Television and Radio Personality, asked on behalf of Ulster Television if Joe would agree to be the subject of one of the series called "UTV Profile", which is described in the *TV Times* as being the "Life, times and views of someone well-known or not so well-known", we were all very excited, and I could sense that the Great Mind was working on it at every opportunity. David Dunseith came to the house and spent over two hours chatting, looking at scrap books, photographs and ciné films—some of which he took away with him. Then last Wednesday the camera crew and the Producer came with David and romped all over the house, moving the furniture, trailing miles of cable and these enormous lights; and then the day before yesterday we went to the Studio for lunch, briefing, make-up and the actual take.

We were both terribly nervous and could hardly eat the food at all. Various personalities were coming and going during the meal, and everyone was terribly kind and interested, and they were all introduced and tried to put Joe at ease, although he seemed to get into his stride pretty well—better than me, and I was only the escort. We had chosen his suit, shirt and tie with great care so that it would look nice in colour, and of course after he had had his facial he really looked smashing.

Eventually we came to the Studio, which was vast, and in spite of being

empty had absolutely no echo. The atmosphere was remarkable, and in the centre, in the midst of dozens of bright lights, and with three cameras in position, there was a beautiful reproduction antique couch, covered in deep pink velvet and with lots of carving on it. For the start of the programme they wanted Joe's profile in darkness against a light wall at the right-hand side of the picture, with the titles going up on the left-hand side, then whilst David talked about the All-Purpose Joe Humphrey, a phrase once used in a congratulations telegram in the scrapbook, there were close-up photographs of Joe engaged in various sporting activities, and working in his treatment room. And then there he was, sitting on the couch and talking away without a trace of nerves—in fact he got quite cocky, and when they asked him what he thought about the Germans on the U-Boats that were sunk he used a naughty word preceded by the adjective "poor"! I was in the Control Room during the shooting and was fascinated by the procedure; I am amazed how so much order comes out of so much apparent chaos. They must have all known what they were doing—everyone having crosstalk through headphones, and screaming to be allowed another minute, but yesterday and today there have been trailer promotions to advertise the feature and we are all keyed up for the occasion.

As Joe says himself, "The Americans think John Wayne won the War, but when they see this everyone will know it was me".

MARJORIE HUMPHREY

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### IAN FRASER HOUSE, Ovingdean Forthcoming Concerts:

Sunday 7th December, 7.30 p.m.

**The Sussex Music Theatre Group**

Sunday 14th December, 7.30 p.m.

**The Brighton Young People's Band**

Sunday 21st December, 7.30 p.m.

**The "Arena" Presents "Christmas Then and Now"**



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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There were dark mutterings at the Big House. Teeth, (courtesy of Mrs. B. Castle) were being gnashed. And the cause? Dome Variety, instead of being produced weekly, was to be monthly. The country must indeed be in a parlous state! However, by dint of soft words and concerts in the house on Tuesdays, we are doing our best to quell the mutiny.

Our first Tuesday concert was given by a friend of many years' standing, Mr. Les Harris, of Newhaven. He brought some delightful records, which were very popular. The resourceful Mr. Harris was quite undaunted by the temperamental behaviour of the stereogram, and managed to coax the music out at the correct speed. The British are rightly renowned for overcoming adversity by brilliant improvisation!

It was a great pleasure to welcome, on two occasions, parties of fellow-workers from Headquarters, and to show them, with pardonable pride, round Ian Fraser House. We all agreed that personal meetings between people who have existed only as disembodied voices over the telephone, were all to the good.

During October, we had visits from the Ham Radio enthusiasts and the Fishing Fraternity. We were happy to welcome both groups, though we saw comparatively little of either. The "hams" were immersed in their call signs and tweeters (we think), and the fishermen were out all day—well, fishing, we guess. At all events, our Chanel No. 5 wilted and died before the all-pervading aroma of whiting and spurdog. Have you ever ridden four floors in a lift without daring to take a breath? We took great delight in watching the intrepid ones stagger down to breakfast each morning, sagging under the weight of a couple of Norwegian-knit sweaters, woolly caps, waterproof, quilted anoraks, and enormous waders, the perspiration coursing down their faces in the warm cocoon of Ian Fraser House. What an unfeeling lot we are!

The Theatre Royal had a spate of comedy offerings, some of which caused

eyebrow-raising and tut-tutting. One of the popular ones was "Boeing-Boeing", which starred three of the cast from the successful T.V. series, "Man About the House". Whilst the production provided plenty of amusement, the play was swamped by the players, who acted their parts as extensions of their T.V. characters. There were two excellent concerts at the Dome, in the Brighton Philharmonic Society's series, and our classical music-lovers spent some happy hours.

The Evening Argus Ladies Choir kindly entertained us one Sunday evening and Wally Muspratt and his friends paid us another visit. Wally's pleasant tenor singing was very popular, and his audience joined in the old songs with great enjoyment, if not always with perfect accuracy!

Tom Eales again delighted us with a stereo concert entitled "Mexican Journey—and Others". Anyone thinking of booking a package tour to South America can save his money, time and effort—for Tom brought it all to life for us in the Winter Garden. The music varied between the langorous and the exciting; street traders called their wares, crickets chirped, and rain splashed down with such realism that some of us instinctively glanced out of the windows. It was so good to hear a steam-engine again, and even that was full of Latin temperament! It huffed and puffed its way up the steep incline, its whistle shrieking intermittently in the most ill-tempered way. It then drew gently into the station (its audience tempted to move away from the edge of the platform), and sighed to a halt. We heard the chattering passengers alighting and boarding, and off she went again, working up speed, until she was singing that contented "Tiddley-dum, tiddley-dee" which is the international language of all trains. The trip was highly successful, and it was a splendid evening. Next month, Tom promises us a "Stereo Spectacular", and we await it with impatience.

Until then, as the Mexicans say (or do they?) "Hasta la Vista"—it sounds so much nicer than "Ta-ra".



# GB3 STD On the Air

**George Taylor G4 BNI  
Describes the Amateur  
Radio Weekend**

"GB3 STD calling". On 18th and 19th October this call sign could be heard all over the world. Gathered at Ian Fraser House during the weekend were the radio hams and short-wave listeners of St. Dunstan's for their convention.

Before opening the gathering the Commandant asked us all to stand to order in memory of our late Chairman, Lord Fraser, who himself held an amateur call sign; he was also a past President of the Radio Society of Great Britain. The Commandant then went on to welcome our guest speakers to St. Dunstan's, wishing us all an enjoyable and successful weekend.

The first speaker was Captain J. Cooper of the Royal Signals, and Secretary of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, who gave a very interesting lecture on communication through the ages. He was followed by Mr. H. J. Hughes of the R.S.G.B. on the activities of that Society. Lunch was then taken in the Winter Garden at Ian Fraser House. The business of the afternoon started at 2.30 p.m. with a lecture by Mr. R. A. Ham, F.R.A.S. This talk covered



*Norman Maries, Roy Haslam and Tommy Gaygan listen intently as Bill Shea tunes the transceiver to an overseas operator.*

a very wide field in amateur radio, which included tape recording and demonstrations of radio equipment from his private collection. We then heard from Mr. C. Scarrott of the Radio Amateur Invalid and Bedfast Club on their activities. Time was running out but there were questions from the floor yet to come; these were many and varied. Finally the meeting closed at 5.30 p.m.

Thank you to our speakers for a most enjoyable and interesting meeting; we have all come away from the convention much wiser for their instruction.

The rest of the weekend was spent operating our short-wave radio and nattering among ourselves about radio.

Our thanks to St. Dunstan's and the staff at Ian Fraser House for making our weekend such an enjoyable one; and to Mr. Norman French who organised the convention. Last, but by no means least, our thanks to Charles Bargery, G3 OTB, who supplied us with copies of Braille county prefix codes.

We all look forward to the time when we meet and put GB3 STD on the air; 73s, everybody! (goodbye and goodluck).



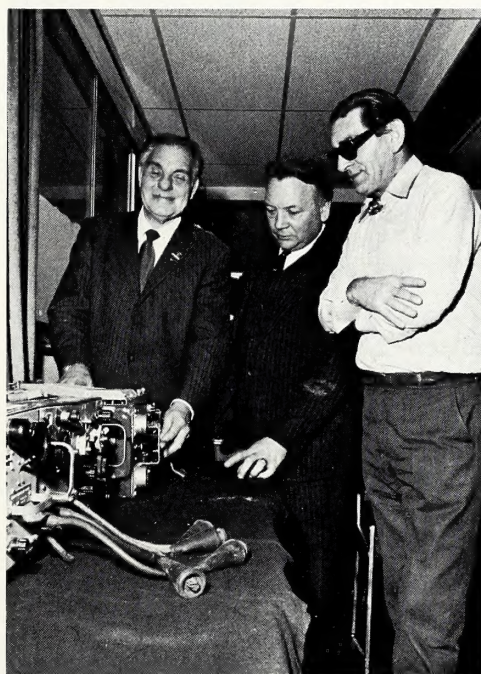


*The Convention in session as Captain Jack Cooper addresses the St. Dunstan's radio amateurs.*

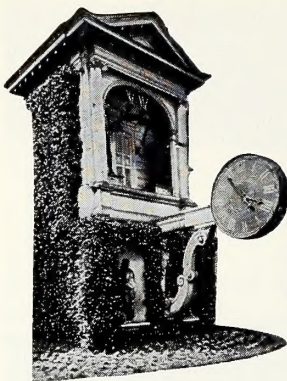
*Ron Ham jokes with George Cole and Jim Padley as he shows some items from his collection of historic radio equipment.*



*George Taylor and Duncan Sutherland, both members of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, admire some war-time sets with Captain Cooper.*







## IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

### The Leeds Cassette

I have just been listening to the first edition of the "Leeds Cassette"—a talking magazine for the blind. One of the first voices I heard was that of **Bert Ward**, a St. Dunstaner, whose brain-child this is, and who is Chairman of the Leeds Talking Magazine Programme for the Blind Association. To bring out the first issue only six months after its inaugural meeting is something of which the Association can be proud.

An appeal has been launched so that the service can be maintained and improved and provide cassette players for blind people who do not possess the appropriate tape recorders. Already there are 100 blind readers and, as there are 1,800 registered blind people in Leeds, only 83 of whom read Braille, there is a high potential circulation. But Bert and his associates do not wish to restrict their circulation and will accept "subscribers" from anywhere.

The first cassette contains some local news—higher 'bus fares; a 10p "cuppa" at British Rail; "Miracle" cures in a local Church, but also features fashion and gardening, and "in-depth" articles from such papers as the *Sunday Times* and *The Observer*.

"As a blind person I know it is difficult to find people to read a long article in depth. They'll pick up the short items but you get these from the radio", says Bert.

So the aim of the "Leeds Cassette" is not to provide "hard" news, but the kind of information not usually easily accessible to blind people. "One reader has

suggested we run a shopping feature", Bert told me, "This would tell blind people about new products on the supermarket shelves. We'll try this, because blind customers can't look along the shelves as sighted people can."

The cassette is most professionally produced by unpaid helpers at the Modern Languages Centre, Leeds Polytechnic.

### Chelmick Photo Wanted

Probably many St. Dunstaners who trained at Church Stretton will have happy memories of "Chelmick", the old farmhouse where the three Miss Jones served marvellous teas. **Jimmy Wright** is one, so much so that he named his own house in Shepperton after the farmhouse. Now he is looking for a photograph of the old Chelmick, now burnt down, so that it can be copied by an artist. If anyone can lend a photograph to Jimmy please write to the *Review* and we will put you in touch.

### Sporting Grand-daughter

Janet O'Connor is an excellent sports-woman; she is the fifteen-year-old daughter of **Tom O'Connor's** son Thomas David, and recently represented her Lincoln sports club, competing against teams from major towns in the region. Four firsts came her way; the 1,500 metres, 400 metres, discus and shot-put. She came second in the long jump, and 8th out of 200 in the cross-country run. Tom has reason to be proud!



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Walter Lethbridge* of Saltdean, Sussex, is pleased to announce the marriage of his son Brian John to Miss Vivienne Blunt on 4th October at St. Agnes Church, Moseley.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Muir* of Blackpool, Lancashire, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Robert on 18th October at St. Joseph's Church, Lancaster, to Miss Jennifer Pye of Lancaster.

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ormond* of Burgess Hill, Sussex, are pleased to announce the marriage of their second son, Renny Richard, to Miss Christine Alison Ockendon at St. John's Church, Burgess Hill, on 4th October.

## Silver Weddings

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hordyniec* of Birmingham, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 21st October. To mark the occasion they gave a party for fellow St. Dunstaners at the Birmingham Club.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. John Martin* of Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 13th November.

## Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lawson Austin* of Halifax, Yorkshire, whose tenth grandchild was born on 3rd October; a son, Vangene Milton, for their daughter Carol and son-in-law Bryan.

*Mr. and Mrs. William Charles Claydon*, of Saltdean, Sussex, whose first grandson was born to their daughter-in-law Barbara and son Paul, of Penge, London, on 11th August.

*Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mitchell* of Guildford, Surrey, on the birth of their first grandchild on 29th October 1975—a son, Richard Neil, for their daughter Susan and son-in-law Jeremy Heath.

*Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Nabney* of Belfast, whose son Tommy and his wife had a daughter, Julie Frances, born on 8th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Edward William Sayer* of Deal, Kent, whose second grandchild was born on 25th May; a daughter, Vanessa Jane, to their daughter Penelope and son-in-law Michael Penn.

*Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ward* of Leeds, Yorkshire, on the birth of identical twin daughters to their daughter-in-law Heather and son Stephen on 16th October; Zoe Hannah and Frances Gemma.

## Examination and Career Successes

### We offer our congratulations to:

Michael John Backhurst, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Basil Charles Backhurst* of Jersey, Channel Islands, on passing his Final Law examinations. His parents plan to attend the ceremony at which Michael will be called to the Bar.

Peter Baker, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Donald Baker* of Rhyl, Flintshire, who left for Ecuador in mid November to take up a two-year contract as territorial manager for a consortium of British Leyland, ICI and Fisons.

David Brett, son of *R. H. (Dickie) Brett* of Lancing, Sussex, who has passed the finals of the Accountancy examination and has been admitted as an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Leslie Victor Bugbee, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Leslie Bugbee*, of Harefield, Middlesex, who has passed with Distinction the Final Examination of the Institute of Export Marketing.

Christopher Mortimer, son of *Mr. and Mrs. George Mortimer* of Hove, who is only a second year student but has been awarded the Harold Laski Scholarship for the best Political Essay written by a second or third year student at the London School of Economics, University of London.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*John Perfect* of Roker, Sunderland, on the death of his Father on 28th October.

*Bruno Tomporowski* of Wolverhampton, whose Mother died in Poland on 6th October. He had visited her in Poland during this summer.



# In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Thomas John Duxbury.** *Royal Corps of Signals*

Thomas John Duxbury of Abbots Mead, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, died on 3rd November at a nursing home in Egremont, Cumbria.

He served as a Signaller in the Royal Corps of Signals, and joined St. Dunstan's in 1971. Despite poor health he was able to visit Brighton for holidays several times.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doris Duxbury, and son Ronald, and daughter-in-law.

**Edwin Clarence Longstaff.** *Machine Gun Corps, Royal Engineers (Signals) and Pioneer Corps*

Edwin Clarence Longstaff of Bognor Regis died in hospital on 11th October aged 78.

He served in the First World War, but did not become a St. Dunstaner until the end of 1973. During his working life he was employed by an internationally-known Electrical Company, and spent the five years prior to his retirement in India as a Departmental Manager. His wife died in 1957, and in 1973 he moved from Wallington, Surrey, where he had lived for 42 years, to Bognor Regis to be near his sister and brother-in-law.

He leaves his sister, Mrs. A. Horton, and other members of his family.

**Arthur Wellesley Martin.** *Royal Army Medical Corps*

Arthur Wellesley "Tiger" Martin of Peacehaven, Sussex, died in hospital on 2nd November.

During the First World War he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps. He had been a St. Dunstaner for nearly forty years; after initial training he became a small poultry farmer, although later ill-health prevented his following an occupation. He was well known to Matrons, staff and fellow members at our Brighton Homes where he often stayed, as well as by Headquarters staff. He was known affectionately as "Tiger", a name derived from his connection with the Circus as a young man, where he was involved in the taming of lions, tigers and other wild cats.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ethel Martin, and son Allan.

**William Alfred Robinson.** *Middlesex Regiment*

William Alfred Robinson, of Uxbridge, Middx., died on 24th October 1975 at the age of 81.

He served during the First World War with the Middlesex Regiment, and his sight deteriorated as a result of injuries. He joined St. Dunstan's in September this year.

He was a widower, and leaves two sons and two daughters.

**John Kenneth Robson.** *Merchant Navy and R.N.R.*

J. K. ("Robbie") Robson, of Hartlepool, Cleveland, died on the 13th October, 1975, at the age of 68.

He served in the Merchant Navy and obtained his Master's Foreign-going Certificate in 1932. He was taken prisoner in 1940 but was later released and joined the Royal Naval Reserve in 1941; he then served in East Africa, at home and in Ceylon. His sight ultimately failed as a result of malnutrition whilst a prisoner of war and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1950. He trained as a telephonist and worked at a hospital for many years until his retirement in 1974.

He was a widower and was on holiday in the Channel Islands with an old family friend when his death occurred quite tragically, partly from a heart condition and partly accidentally from poisoning from a gas leak. The news was a great shock and grief to his friends; he was a man who won the deep affection and respect of all who were fortunate enough to know him.

He leaves a married son and family in England and a married daughter and family, whom he visited in Australia earlier this year.

**Percy Sainty.** *10th London Regiment*

Percy Sainty of Woodford Bridge, Essex, died on 5th November in hospital.

He was wounded at Kut in 1917 while serving with the 10th London Regiment. The following year he was admitted to St. Dunstan's, and became a shop-keeper, but when ill-health prevented his continuing with this he was re-trained to undertake work for Home Industries. He was a competent mat-maker, and until recently made dog-leads for our Stores.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edith Anne Sainty, and children with families.



**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**JANUARY**





# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 670

JANUARY 1976

10p MONTHLY

## MR. NIGEL PEARSON

As we go to Press we learn with deep regret of the death, on 8th December, of Mr. Nigel Arthur Pearson, son of our President, Sir Neville Pearson, Bart., and a Member of St. Dunstan's Council. Our Chairman's tribute will appear in the February *Review*.

## INSURANCE COVER ON YOUR HOMES AND CONTENTS

It is thought that a timely reminder is due regarding insurance cover on your homes. St. Dunstan's have all their Estate properties insured to cover Fire & Storm damage, but this insurance does *not* cover the *contents* which belong to their tenants. If insurance cover is required for contents, it has to be taken out by the tenant.

Some of our St. Dunstaners have recently had their homes broken into and have had their property stolen. Those who have had insurance cover on the contents of their homes have been successful in obtaining reimbursement for their loss, but other St. Dunstaners who have not taken out insurance cover have had to suffer the loss themselves.

You may not be aware of the fact that insurance cover on your home contents is not limited to Fire and Theft but can be taken out under modern schemes to cover a number of additional risks, for example, accidental damage to TV (including colour sets), Hi-Fi and similar equipment in the home. It is also worth noting in this context that a rented TV set is not normally insured by the Rental Company for accidental damage.

Homeplan proposal forms are now in the possession of our Surveyors and Welfare Visitors. These proposal forms are mainly in respect of Fire and Burglary only, but full information on other types

of insurance can be obtained from Mr. C. H. Lawrence at Headquarters.

It should be noted that all premiums payable through St. Dunstan's Agency are subject to 12½% commission which is passed on to our St. Dunstaners.

St. Dunstaners who are owner occupiers, particularly those who are purchasing their properties by means of a mortgage, should ensure that their premises are covered adequately, especially in the light of the present day inflated building costs which are still rising. In this respect assistance in assessing the cover required may be obtained from our Surveyors.

## FREE GAS CHECK

We have been informed that the British Gas Corporation has offered a free nationwide gas safety check to elderly disabled and blind people in the U.K. (except for Northern Ireland). Checks will be made to ensure the soundness of installations and appliances. Necessary adjustments will be made to appliances without charge, and minor parts costing no more than £1 will be replaced free. Where more expensive repair work is necessary, written estimates will be sent, which may be used to obtain financial assistance. Advice will also be given on servicing of gas central heating and water heating. Pre-payment meters can be relocated on request up to 3 feet away from their present site for £3. Special tap handles, Braille taps and other aids will be fitted at a standard charge of £1.50 each. St. Dunstaners wanting to take advantage of the offer should tell their local Welfare Visitors, who will pass on names to the Service Director of the local Gas Board.

*Reprinted from BBC In Touch Quarterly Bulletin.*

**COVER PICTURE:** *White to move—the hands of a chess player at Chess Weekend: see centre pages.*



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From: Mr. R. O. L. Thomas, a sighted Member of St. Dunstons**

The November *Review* has been received, lent out, and is now back in my possession.

An assortment of house magazines, journals, news sheets and the like come my way but none can measure up in calibre and appeal to St. Dunstan's *Review*, and features like your contribution "Better Than One" account largely for this being so.

Your narrative is excellent and surely readers felt the poignancy of the burial of Amber in your garden and shared your apprehension when Deana was petrified by fright on Hammersmith catwalk. I like your reasoning and the whole essay is a rich mine of useful information, and with each careful re-reading I hit upon a fresh "slant" contained in some phrase or even in a single word. But the essence is a brave story of a man, with a deep affection and attachment to his dog, and backed by his family, taking on the odds

of a complicated, busy world—aye—and winning through. This isn't eulogy, it's fact! As our Australian cousins say, "Good on you!"

**From: Miss Una Greenwood, Manchester**

Re. article "Remembrance Sunday" December *Review* in which is stated, "for the first time we had a girl marching with us".

I would like to point out that I took part in the Cenotaph parade in either 1961 or 1962 and was the only female with the St. Dunstan's contingent. My father acted as my escort thus we represented both world wars, my father having served with the Lancashire Fusiliers and the Royal Garrison Artillery in the 1914-18 conflict and I having served with the ATS/WRAC in the Second World War and later years.

We had both attended the Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall on the previous evening.

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## STAFF OBITUARY

**Mr. William Game**

Those St. Dunstaners who were trained as Mat Makers, will be very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Game on the 6th November, at the age of 76 years. Mr. Game came to St. Dunstan's in May 1920 as Assistant Storekeeper and Mat Instructor, and became the Superintendent and Technical Visitor of the Mat Department in 1936. During his 44 years at St. Dunstan's he became the firm friend of the Mat Makers. He retired in July 1964. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Game.

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## LONG SERVICE

At a special Dinner recently, *Max Ash* of Paignton, Devon, was presented with a beautiful gilt battery clock, to commemorate his forty years' service with Unigate Company, Bason Bridge, Highbridge. Its inscription expressed the firm's appreciation of his loyal service. In addition, he has received a Long

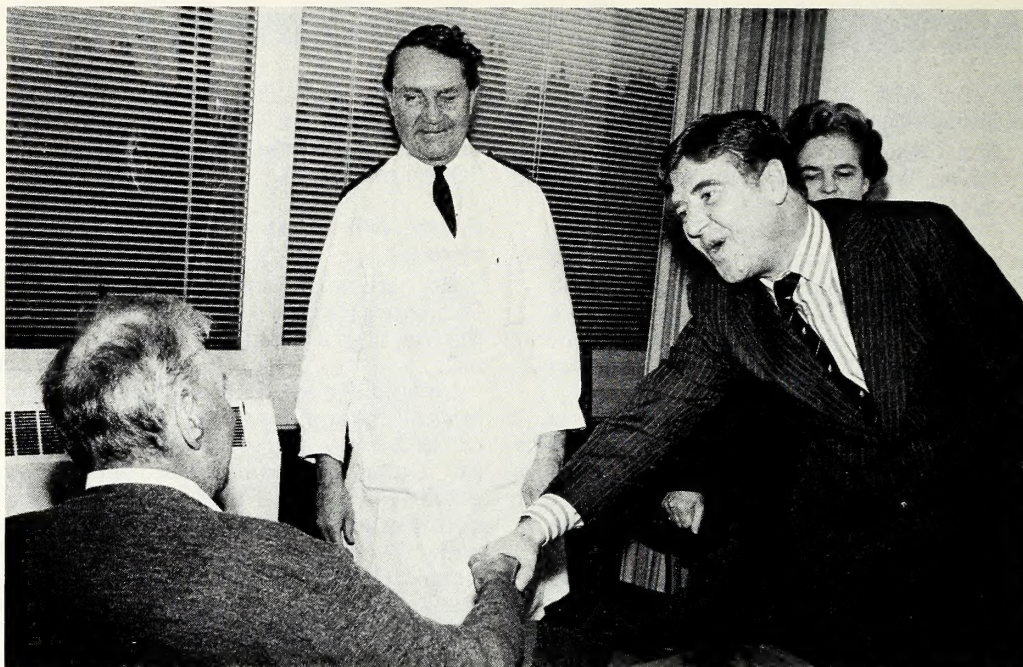
Service Badge, and been listed on their Honours Board, which will entitle him to attend their Annual Long-Service Dinner.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The first meeting of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society will take place on Saturday, 7th January, at 1.0 p.m., in the Committee Room on the first floor of St. Dunstan's Headquarters, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London. The purpose of the meeting will be to draw up the Articles of Association, elect officers for the coming year and generally "launch" the Society.

All St. Dunstaners who are known to be licensed, or short wave listeners, will receive a circular letter informing them that the meeting is to be held, but if any other St. Dunstaners are interested, they are warmly invited to attend the meeting, and are asked to contact the convenor, *E. C. (Ted) John* (G3 SEJ), at his home: 52 Broadway Avenue, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 6TD.





*St. Dunstaner John Campkin, physiotherapist at Pearson House, smiles as Alfred Morris greets his patient, John McCuoid. In the background is Matron Hallett.*

## 'OUR' MINISTER VISITS BRIGHTON HOMES

On Friday, 5th December, Mr. Alfred Morris, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Disabled and the Minister most closely concerned with the welfare of St. Dunstaners, visited our Homes in Brighton.

Arriving at Pearson House at 11 a.m., the Minister was greeted by our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and Secretary, Mr. C. D. Wills. He was shown over the nursing wing and parts of the main building by Commandant Fawcett and Matron Hallett. Mr. Morris spoke to a number of St. Dunstaners before leaving for Ian Fraser House.

### At Ian Fraser House

In the hour and a half before lunch, the Minister—in the charge of Commandant Fawcett and Matron Blackford—saw the model of Ian Fraser House and the rooms on the main floor. The party then moved on to the South Wing, including the swimming pool. Mr. Morris talked with

trainees and instructors in the industrial and joinery workshops before looking in on the Bowls Championships in the indoor rink. Here he presented prizes to the winners and runners-up in the Men's Pairs competition.

### In the Main Building

The tour continued in the main building through the kitchen and Winter Garden, where a display of equipment and photographs had been arranged. Mr. Morris visited the Handicraft, Braille and Typing Rooms, where he talked to more St. Dunstaners and staff. Finally, he inspected St. Dunstaners' bedrooms, including those for the doubly handicapped, and girls.

The formal part of Mr. Morris' visit concluded with speeches in the Lounge. Introducing Mr. Morris to the assembled St. Dunstaners, Mr. Garnett-Orme said:

"This is the first time we have had the honour of a visit from Mr. Alfred Morris,



but he is no stranger to St. Dunstan's because he has been to see us once or twice in London in recent years. We are very pleased to have him down here and he is an exceptional man, in many ways. Ever since he has been in Parliament he has taken particular interest in the disabled. He also has personal experience because Mr. Morris' father was wounded in the First World War, and partially disabled.

"So we are very, very lucky to have such a sympathetic Minister, also one with personal experience of disablement through his father. I think, if I may say so, Lord Fraser would have said that we would like to call him 'our Minister' and we are all very happy to have him here today."

### Lord Fraser's Help

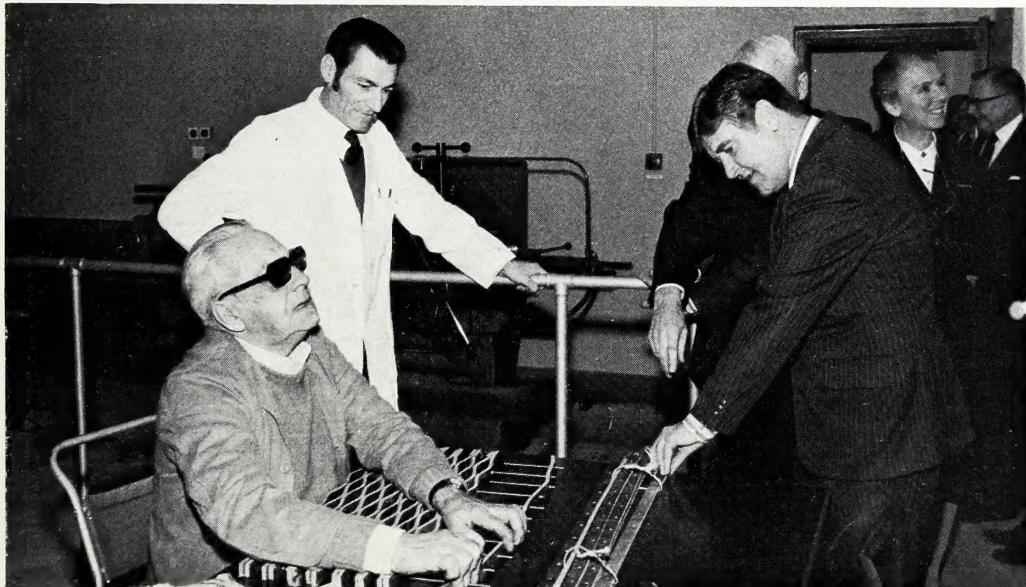
Mr. Morris said:

"Naturally this is a very happy day for me. As you have heard, I had a close personal relationship with Lord Fraser. He gave me a great deal of help during the Parliamentary proceedings on the 'Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons' Bill', as it then was, in the Parliamentary Session of 1969/1970. He spoke on the Bill in the House of Lords and gave it



*Peter McCormack demonstrates the use of a handbrace in the carpentry workshop.*

*The Minister watches William Waller at work assembling a metal and rubber mat. John Brown, industrial instructor, looks on.*







*Alfred Morris tries his hand at the deaf/blind manual and succeeds in "talking" to Wally Thomas. Matron Blackford and Commandant Fawcett are also in the picture.*

*Mr. Garnett-Orme bids goodbye to the Minister.*



every possible support on its way to the Statute Book.

"Of course I hold St. Dunstan's in very high regard. I know that the people who come here and who are helped in other places and in other ways by St. Dunstan's also feel that life would be much worse for severely visually handicapped people without St. Dunstan's.

### **Marvellous Christmas**

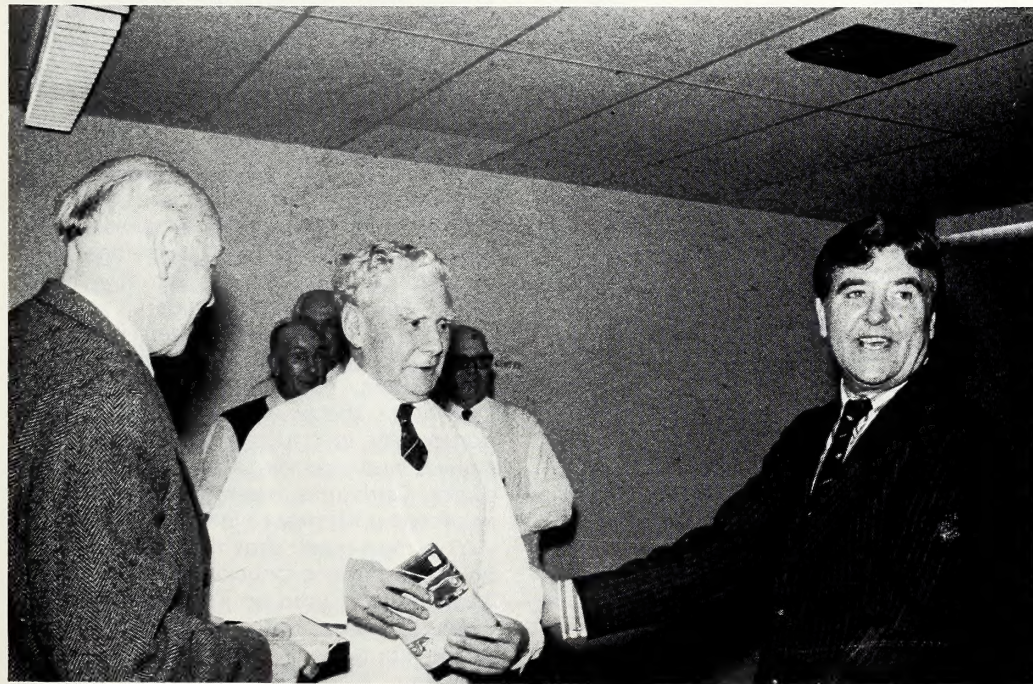
"Now, Christmas is not very far away. I have seen the programme for Christmas which strikes me as one of the most marvellous that you could possibly have, I know that you want me to thank everyone who will be working to make your Christmas enjoyable as members of the staff, and I say to the Matron and to all her colleagues that I know that you all very deeply appreciate the work that they do in the service of disabled people. My thoughts are very much with you, and I say again that it is both an honour and a very great pleasure to be at St. Dunstan's today."





*In the Braille Room with Jack Martin and instructor, Mark Kingsnorth.*

*Receiving prizes from Alfred Morris are George Stanley and Harry Preedy, runners-up in the Men's Pairs Final in the first St. Dunstan's Annual Indoor Bowls Championships.*





# BRIDGE NOTES

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Would those who have not yet submitted their names for the Bridge Congress please do so immediately to enable us to arrange this satisfactorily.

H. MELESON

## BRIGHTON

Results of the **Annual Duplicate Individual Competition** for the Gover Cup are as follows (based on the best 5 scores throughout the year):

1 F. Griffee	375
2 S. Webster	369
3 R. Fullard	365
4 W. Lethbridge	354
5 J. Simmons	350
6 C. Walters	343
7 R. Goding	338
8 M. Clements	336
9 R. Bickley	325
A. Dodgson	325
11 W. Scott	324
12 J. Whitcombe	319
13 W. Claydon	317
14 A. Smith	295

The final round of the **Individual Duplicate Competition** for the Gover Cup took place on Saturday, 1 November at Ian Fraser House. Results were as follows:

R. Goding and R. Fullard	72
P. McCormack and W. Lethbridge	67
A. Smith and J. Padley	67
S. Webster and J. Simmons	59
R. Bickley and C. Walters	57
F. Griffee and W. Scott	56

Taking the **best 5 results over the year**, three out of the first four prize-winners are previous winners of the Gover Cup.

1 F. Griffee	375
2 S. Webster	369
3 R. Fullard	365
4 W. Lethbridge	354

R. FULLARD  
Secretary

# OVINGDEAN NOTES

Although, on the surface, life at Ian Fraser House during November was tranquil — comparatively speaking! — behind the scenes there was much activity. Preparations for Christmas gained momentum, and we hope that the programme will meet with general approval. However, we bear in mind the old adage—"You can't win 'em all!"

Early in the month, we visited the Brighton Society for the Blind at their clubrooms, having been challenged to a General Knowledge Quiz. It began in a somewhat solemn manner, but the good-humoured and light-hearted attitude of our team soon made it into a happy and entertaining afternoon. We thank our good friend Mr. Stokes, who acted as scorekeeper—unfortunately for us, he was scrupulously honest! Awards for gallantry go to Dick Jones, Jack Martin and Joe Langley, who made up the St. Dunstan's team. We have to confess that we were soundly beaten by a very good team—we will draw a discreet veil over the final score. (Well, did *you* know that Beethoven wrote only one opera?) Judged in terms of enjoyment, it was a great success, and we hope to return the compliment at a future date. Any budding Mastermind—please volunteer. PLEASE!

The Chess weekend was greatly enjoyed by all who took part in it. Mr. Bonham is a splendid teacher, and communicates his enjoyment and enthusiasm to his pupils. It gave us all great pleasure to see him again. A detailed account of the event will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Drives to Tylden House and The Brown Owls, both of which are fairly recent innovations, took place. Mr. and Mrs. Lyndhurst, the owners of Tylden House, generously invited a party of St. Dunstaners and escorts to visit them for tea during Christmas week, an invitation we accepted with great pleasure.

You may recall that the Dome Variety now takes place only once each month, and to fill the void on Tuesday evenings, we hold various informal entertainments in the Lounge. The first of these was a concert by "The Sussex Sweet Adelines"—a choir of some twenty ladies,



who sing in the style of the old barber-shop harmony. However, Women's Lib. was kept melodiously in check by the conductor, Mr. Alec Emery. The vote of thanks was given by Bob Forshaw, who couldn't resist referring to Mr. Emery as "Fred Emney". So "Fred" he will undoubtedly remain to St. Dunstaners, despite the fact that he was really rather a dishy young man.

### **Stereo Journey**

Tom Eales' long-awaited "Stereo Spectacular" lived up to its title. We were treated to a trip around Paris, with all its traffic noises, taxi-drivers yelling the French equivalent of "silly moo" and "stupid git"—we think—and a thunderstorm to add even more atmosphere. We then went inside a nightclub, and the females present were immediately transported into the arms of Charles Aznavour, who sang enticingly into their shell-like ears. Imagination sure is a wonderful thing! The men, no doubt, were busy calculating the cost—unromantic lot! From Paris, we went to Russia. A troika jingled through the snow, and then, miraculously, we were in "The Hall of the Mountain Kings", a wonderfully atmospheric piece of music from Greig's Peer Gynt Suite. The grand finale was the "1812 Overture", with full orchestra, choir, booming cannons, and everything except the Ovingdean dinner bell. (Nobody sleeps during Tom's programmes.) It was all most stirring and exciting, and we thank Tom sincerely for all his hard work on our behalf.

### **Concerts and Theatres**

At the Theatre Royal, we had an interesting selection of plays, and a personal appearance by Bette Davis, who is still quite a gal. We had two Sunday evening concerts which were well received—one of them given by the Arena Choir under their musical director, Mr. Alec Fisher. They are all of the Jewish faith, and sang some Hebrew songs which were familiar to us, and some which we heard for the first time. They sang a selection from "Fiddler on the Roof", and we all enjoyed the sincerity of their singing, and the warmth of their personalities. Another Sunday entertainment was given by Mr. Peter Larsen, of the BBC and Radio Brighton. He gave

us a first-class entertainment on the electronic organ, and cha-cha-ed, boogie-woogied, and bossa-nova-ed with such dexterity that it looked easy—the mark of a real professional. He asked us for "requests", and they were thrown at him with a will. Nothing "threw" him, and we all had a really happy evening. Eddie Allchin spoke for us all when he said we should be delighted if another visit could be arranged, and we are happy to say that Mr. Larsen is returning on December 28th. That is a treat in store.

By the time you read this, Christmas will be but a memory—we hope that you had a happy time, and that 1976 will bring you good health, prosperity, and a contented heart.

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## **CLUB NEWS**

### **SUTTON**

On 6th December the Sutton Club held their annual party, but on this occasion a joy and a sadness overshadowed the event, for Miss Diana Hoare joined us for the last time.

For many years Diana has helped to run a centre for the old and disabled in London, and at the end of the year she retires, leaving her London home and retiring to a cottage in Winchester.

We of the Sutton Club will miss her help and friendship, for she has been associated with its activities from its formation.

Meeting by meeting she has travelled through all weathers to be there to assist us, to arrange our social entertainment, and our outings.

Mr. Johnny Taylor, our Chairman, presented Diana with a bouquet of flowers, and a token given by the members and their wives, with which, we hope, she will buy something to remind her of her connection with the Club.

In wishing her a long and happy retirement, we feel sure that all members past and present will join us in saying "Thank You, Diana, for all you have done for the Sutton Club."

*REG NEWTON*



## CLUB NEWS *continued*

### ST. DUNSTAN'S BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

We are asked to make it clear that the correct title of the Brighton Club is the "St. Dunstan's *Brighton* Social and Sports Club", and that letters, etc., should be addressed to:

The Honorary Secretary,  
St. Dunstan's Brighton Social and  
Sports Club,  
Ian Fraser House,  
Ovingdean,  
Brighton,  
Sussex BN2 7BS

for collection by Mrs. J. R. Dennis, the  
Honorary Secretary.

### THE NEW BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB NEWS

The new Brighton Club is well under way, and the members now number over one hundred. Club Day is on Wednesday, and we are all enjoying to the full the amenities of the Annexe at Ian Fraser House. We have numerous members from outside the Brighton area, who will be able to enjoy the facilities of the Club when on holidays. The facilities are exceptionally good: Bowls; Swimming; Bridge; Dominoes; Whist; Cribbage; Darts and Bingo. There are plenty of entertainments, and subsidised fishing trips once a month. We also hold a dance and bar in the Annexe Ballroom once a month. A Committee for entertainments will be on hand to suit members' individual requests and wishes.

Two dances have been held at the Club, one each month. The first was on 8th November, and the Christmas Dance with buffet was held on 6th December. At both dances, Mrs. E. Dacre, President of the Club, and guests attended. They were very sociable, enjoying the evening with us. At the Christmas Dance Councillor and Mrs. Wakefield attended. The Councillor presented the cups for the old Brighton Club. Also, two charming young ladies in Mrs. Dacre's party played their guitars and sang. This entertainment was very well received and enjoyed by all. Thank you girls, and thank you Councillor Wakefield!

We were delighted to see so many of our members, more than ninety were there. Everyone enjoyed themselves and gave thanks to the Committee. The Committee wish to thank you all for expressing these sentiments, but they are very conscious that without you, the members, their work would be in vain. We feel we must thank Mr. and Mrs. W. Claydon for their efforts; Bill is head of entertainments, and plays his own organ for our dances, bringing the organ and apparatus from his home. Monica, his wife, helps with the prompting for tunes, and singing, also doing the M.C. work, decorating the hall superbly and, of course, running the raffle. The sub-committee's wives, with the help of the Chairman's and Vice-Chairman's wives, namely Mrs. Dodgson and Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Frearson and Mrs. Preedy, sell raffle tickets. The raffle exceeded our wildest dreams, again thanks to our members' support. W. Claydon, A. Dodgson and W. Phillips, the entertainments committee, thank all members for their loyal support, and all three committee members hope you will continue to give your warm support to the Club, and let them know of any way you think the Club could be made more efficient.

W. PHILLIPS

### Results of the 1975 Sir Arthur Pearson Competition Whist Aggregate

Gentlemen	1st H. Preedy 2nd F. Griffee
Ladies	1st Mrs. M. Crabtree 2nd Mrs. J. Walker

### Aggregate Dominoes

Gentlemen	1st J. Frearson 2nd S. Pike
Ladies	1st Mrs. S. Pike 2nd Mrs. E. Quinn

### Knockout Dominoes (5s and 3s)

1st J. Jones 2nd S. Pike
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### Cribbage

1st W. Scott 2nd T. Kirk
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## First games played for the new Brighton Club Whist Aggregate

### 5th November

Gentlemen	1st W. Phillips 2nd C. Walters 3rd F. Griffiee
Ladies	1st Mrs. M. Inman 2nd Mrs. J. Aldridge 3rd Mrs. M. Phillips

### 3rd December

Gentlemen	1st F. Griffiee and W. Lethbridge 3rd C. Walters
Ladies	1st Mrs. B. Griffiths 2nd Mrs. M. Inman 3rd Mrs. M. Crabtree

## Aggregate Dominoes

### 19th November

1st Mrs. P. Padley
2nd Mrs. H. Preedy and Mrs. J. Mudd

## Cribbage

The first round draw has been made, and this competition is in the process of being played.

## Knockout Dominoes (5s and 3s)

First round being played.

## Fishing Section, New Brighton Club

Since the formation of this Section, members have enjoyed two trips. On Wednesday, 12th November, six anglers left Newhaven Harbour on the Caroline II. Unfortunately, the weather conditions made it necessary to return to the Harbour earlier than planned, but we were more fortunate on the next trip aboard the Java Zee on Friday, 5th December. Catches on both occasions included Channel Whiting. These trips will be a monthly event, with the exception of April, June and October. Boat bookings have been made for 1976. Any Club members wishing to take part in these activities should contact me for further information.

A. DODGSON

*Fishing Representative*

## Swimming Activities

Swimming Certificates from the Amateur Swimming Association are available for the small fee of 5p, for anyone wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity. Anyone interested, please contact Mr. J. Avey, Lifeguard, at the Pool, Ian Fraser House, any distance or any stroke.

# ST DUNSTANS' FISHING TRIPS

The St. Dunstan's organised Autumn fishing session took place from Saturday 25th to Tuesday 28th October, with twenty-eight St. Dunstaners taking part. Eighteen went out on each day, the majority getting in four days' fishing. The weather was good, with Tuesday the only unsettled day. Everyone caught good bags of Channel Whiting, with the odd Spurdog.

The competitions arranged for the Fishing Club members were keenly contested, the winner on each day being the competitor with the heaviest single fish (prize value £2).

Saturday	J. Morrish 2 lb. 2 oz. Channel Whiting
Sunday	A. Dodgson 2 lb. 8 oz. Spurdog
Monday	W. Phillips 5 lb. 8 oz. Spurdog

Tuesday	M. Golding P. Stubbs 1 lb. 12½ oz. Channel Whiting
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Heaviest bag of fish over the four days—  
**A. Waters**, 20 lbs. 4 oz. (prize value £4.40).

In all a very satisfying and enjoyable four days' fishing. The fishing dates for 1976 are:

**April 3rd to 6th**  
**June 21st to 25th**  
**October 23rd to 26th**

These sessions are open to all St. Dunstaners resident at Ian Fraser House at the time; if you wish to attend any of them, please apply to me at Ian Fraser House for entry forms as soon as possible.

J. CARNOCHAN  
*Sports Organiser*



# St. Dunstan's Chess Championships

by Roman Donald



*Below: Play in progress in the second section, l.-r. Vi Delaney, Charles Rentowl, Michael Hollway, sighted helper, George Hudson, Reg Barrett.*

*Below right: Things were more light-hearted in the Beginners' Section as Mr. Bonham jokes with Alice Gimbrere. L.-r. Eddie Allchin, Alice Gimbrere, Mike Tybinski, Reginald Bonham and Jim Padley.*





The Chess Championship took place at Ian Fraser House from Friday 14th to Sunday 16th November, and it was very nice to be back there again.

After preliminary discussion on Friday, all the participants in Congress were divided into three sections.

We were very fortunate to have Mr. Bonham once again, who adjudicated the unfinished games and gave tuition to the beginners.

On the following day we commenced the tournament. We had one session in the morning and another in the afternoon.

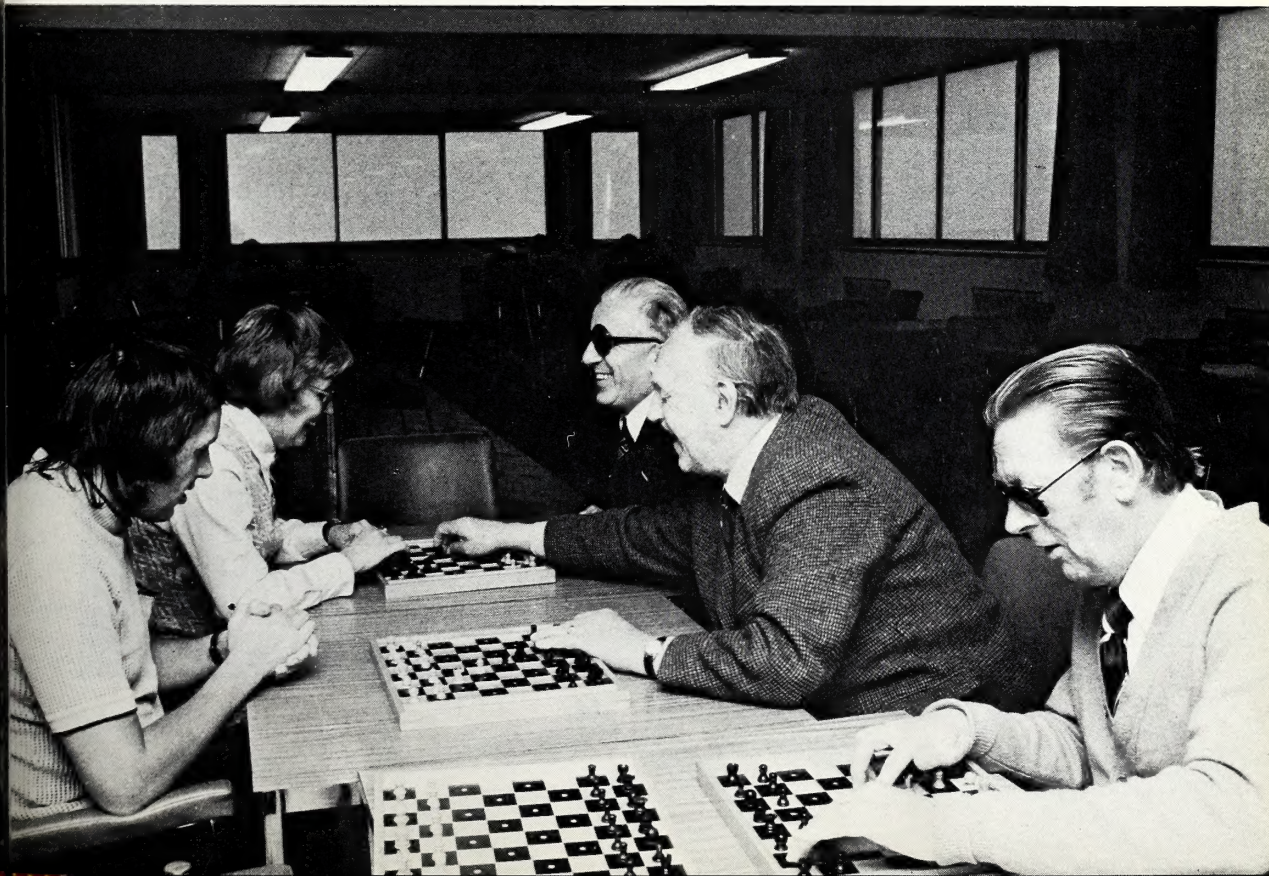
The Congress culminated on Sunday afternoon with a brief speech from Mr. Bonham, followed by tea and friendly conversation.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Kelk, widow of the chess-playing St. Dunstaner, the late *Charles Kelk*.

Finally, *Roy Hyett* made a speech of thanks to Mr. Bonham, Mrs. Kelk and Matron and the Staff at Ian Fraser House for making the Chess Congress such a great success.

#### *Results overleaf*

*Great concentration is shown by the joint champions Harold Mallinson, opposite, and Roman Donald, right.*

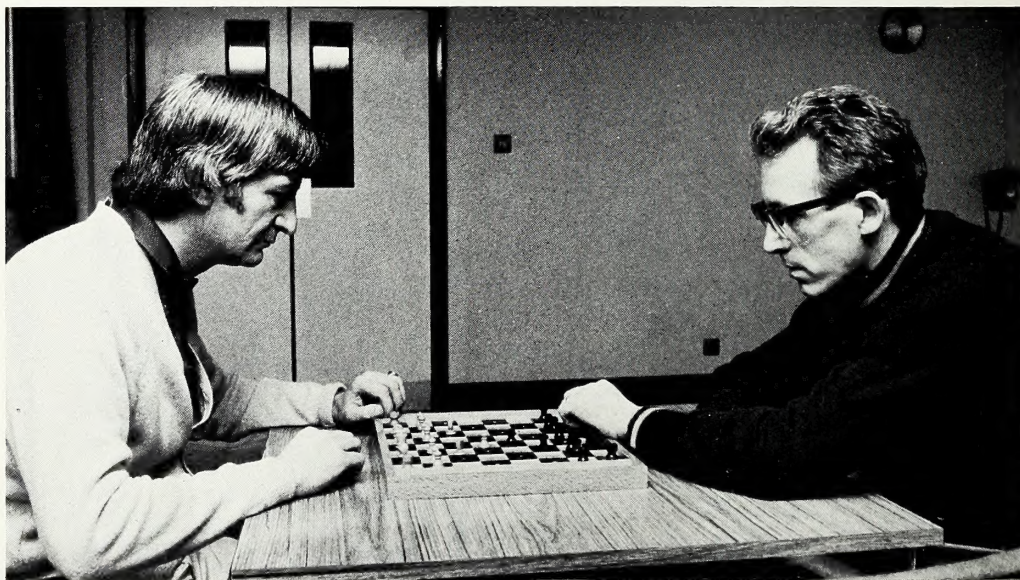






*Dorothy Williams helps Vi Delaney sort out the pieces for her next game.*

*Below: David Thomas and Roy Hyett in play.*



## Chess Results

### 1st Section

**Harold Mallinson and Roman Donald** tied with 2 points each—thus sharing the trophy.

**Roy Hyett and David Thomas** scored 1 point each.

### 2nd Section

**George Hudson** scored 3 points and received 1st Prize.

**Mrs. Violet Delaney** scored 2 points and received 2nd Prize

**Reg Barrett** scored 1 point.

**Charles Rentowl**—0.

Beginners attending were as follows:

James Padley, Mrs. Alice Gimbrere,  
Michael Tybinski, Eddie Allchin

### CHESS INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

A weekend of instruction for chess players has been arranged to take place at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean, from **Friday 13th to Sunday 15th February**. Mr. R. W. Bonham is prepared to run separate instructional sessions for complete beginners, improvers and "professors". These will take place on Saturday morning and afternoon and on Sunday morning everyone is welcome, no matter what their standard. Please apply for accommodation to Miss Bridger, Homes Booking Clerk, at Headquarters.





*Mainly for*

*Women*



## The Background Listener

What comprises a housewife's day? Of course you know—only too well! But how much "background listening" do you do simultaneously—and how often is the television on, and you half-watching it?

It's part of our daily life, isn't it, and we hardly even notice it. I must say I enjoy the adverts on ITV, but on this occasion I've concentrated on Auntie BBC, and flipped through the week's Radio Times—and been astonished by the rich variety of topics for our pleasure, and of course for our information and education!

An account of ghost investigations gets star billing; one hopes it will be informative but not too ghoulish! Comedy—on radio and television; sport—eight different at least appear. What part do the Royal Family and the pageantry of our country's history play in our lives? An immense amount. December of course includes the Sovereign's annual radio and television Christmas broadcast, and some recent television appearances by Royalty—notably H.R.H. Prince Charles' epic interview, broadcast on his birthday!—may have the effect of bringing them in closer touch with the nation. Science programmes, medical information, politics, a variety of religious

programmes are all evident. "Panorama" on television discusses the "infant bottle-feeding controversy" in the developing countries, and African dance is the subject of "The World About Us". Cookery recipes are interspersed in pop programmes. We can listen to the learned delivering the Reith lectures, and talking about archaeology and architecture—the current "Spirit of the Age" series is illuminating; the gentle and wise trying to assist with the personal problems of those brave enough to write in. Who can fail to be involved with that everyday story of countryfolk—perhaps you even listen to "Farming Today" for the real thing? Music in abundance—the Proms, Radio 3's own concerts, light and popular music at all times; and conversation! There's no end to that, is there, whether it be from Parkinson, Frost, "Any Questions", or "Down Your Way".

Religious programmes have their share too; on television and radio, ranging from the controversial to the cosy. Books are reviewed, new drama and old films are there for our entertainment, the classics of many countries provide serials—colourful on television and imagination-stirring on radio. A Victorian novel by Mrs. Gaskell has just commenced,



providing us with some social history as well as drama!

We learn about finance in the Money Programme, politics from the politicians—whether or not party broadcasts are to your taste, or you prefer the direct transmissions from Parliament. At least there is no shortage of current affairs programmes. And one can always tune in to the World Service, if home listening is not sufficiently varied, and hear the programmes broadcast to Europe, Asia, America and Africa, in English, European and other appropriate languages.

So the choice is wide; but what are your comments? The BBC is ours, insofar as we pay for our licences; so state your views, please! Do you time your day by the news broadcasts? What part do radio and television play in your lives? Please write and tell me—your remarks should make fascinating reading!

## Have you a Regional Recipe?

Part of the attraction (for me anyway, I confess) of spending holidays in other parts of the country is sampling traditional regional dishes. "Cumberland mince tart", "Yorkshire apple and cheese pie", and real Cornish pasties. But surely we could share these recipes instead of being forced to pack and go on holiday to discover them?!

Your contributions are invited, ladies (and gentlemen. Incidentally, how many St. Dunstaners are dab hands in the kitchen?).

So: your favourite regional recipes please (a sort of St. Dunstan's "Nation-wide" effort). We might even produce a "St. Dunstan's Cookbook", with contributions from blind chefs; we should welcome hints and tips!

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## VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

by Wally Thomas and George Rees

*During 1975 our Deaf-Blind St. Dunstaner, Wally Thomas, had hospital treatment and it was suggested that a change of climate would help him considerably. George Rees, known to most of you, agreed to escort Wally on a month's holiday in South Africa. Mrs. Opperman and Jimmy Ellis of the South African branch of St. Dunstan's generously arranged the trip. Below, George and Wally offer us their account of the four weeks:*

A DC 9 lifted us off the Heathrow strip, and 90 minutes later dropped us down at Geneva. We hiked from one part of the Airport to another and eventually climbed all the steps that led us into the welcoming gap of a Jumbo Jet. We flew through the night and made a good landing at Johannesburg. We found our way through the vast Jan Smuts Airport and boarded a Boeing 707. At Cape Town we were greeted by wind and rain, but warmly welcomed by Jimmy Ellis and his wife Laura, who drove us to the hotel where we were to stay for the twelve days.

A couple of days later we went to St. Dunstan's Church, Pinelands, where our St. Dunstaner, the Rev. Michael Norman, was host at a gathering of St. Dunstaners. We had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Opperman, members of her Council, old and helpful members of St. Dunstan's and a large number of St. Dunstaners—both black and white. We enjoyed greetings and interesting conversation both before and after a most enjoyable lunch.

The South Africa National Art Gallery is to be found in Cape Town. It boasts a "Touch Gallery", and this department has been designed to offer an appreciation of Art to the sighted and blind. We were welcomed there by Sandra Eastwood, and she ably introduced us to the finer points of Art.

During our stay in Cape Town, we were taken to the top of Table Mountain by Cable Car and enjoyed the wonderful view that it had to offer of the town and Peninsula.

A Boeing 707 ferried us from Cape Town to East London. Transport drove us nine miles out of Town and dropped us off at a place called Hillcombe. Hillcombe



is in semi-country and started life as a small convalescent hospital for British Servicemen wounded in Africa during the Second War. It changed its style of life several times and subsequently became a Holiday Home for the Blind of South Africa. The R.A.F. Association of East London invited us to their Club, and we spent an enjoyable evening there with the members.

We were back on the plane and it dropped us down at Durban just for a brief visit, en route for Johannesburg. We were met at the Airport by Ron Pennicott, the President of the R.A.F. Association for the whole of Africa. As he drove to our hotel he told us some of the outstanding aspects of this wonderful City. It had been arranged for us to meet Lord Fraser's Grandson, Christopher Macdonald, and his attractive wife Athalie. This charming young couple had the ability to make us feel very welcome in their home. We had an excellent meal, interesting conversation, and Chris introduced Wally to the game of "Master Mind". A few days later the Macdonalds took us on a trip to the Johannesburg Lion Park. It was a remarkable experience to just sit there in a car and be surrounded by roaring lions. Our South African St. Dunstaner, Danny Pretorius and his wife, generously invited us to spend a weekend on a 600 acre farm. We are indebted to them for their every kind gesture.

Our last evening in Johannesburg was spent at the R.A.F. Association's Club and we had the pleasure of being introduced to the members and their wives. We were made honorary members and presented with Club ties, and Wally was presented with a small trophy shield as a memento of our visit.

The occasion provided us with an opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the overwhelming hospitality we had enjoyed during our month in South Africa.

And then it was time for us to climb up those steps again and into the Jumbo Jet's welcoming gap.

The evening meal was served and then cleared away, the bustle subsided and most passengers settled in their chairs to a night's sleep. The night had grown old by the time breakfast was served, and after the crumbs had been brushed away,

we were preparing to land at Zurich. Then the P.A. crackled and the voice informed us, "This is your Captain speaking. Dense fog has closed Zurich Airport. We are being re-routed to Basel.". At Basel, we were told the situation was beyond the scope of the Airport Staff, and that being so, we would have to make our own way and carry our own baggage to Zurich. The journey involved a bus ride, train ride, another bus ride, plus physical strugglings and mental strainings. We finally reached Zurich Airport and joined the other hundreds of stranded passengers. But, we were fortunate to be favoured with seats on one of the first planes to leave the airfield. We were only five hours behind schedule when we touched down at Heathrow.

It had been a most interesting and enjoyable month and we are sincerely grateful to all those who contributed to our pleasure.

## THE TOUCH GALLERY

### Editor's Note

*Wally Thomas has also given us his own personal reflections on his visit to the Touch Gallery.*

As children, we were brought up to understand we mustn't touch things when in shops and other places, and it served to provide us with a complex about touching things in public. This aspect of upbringing was among my initial problems when I lost my sight later in life. When a blind person is examining an object, it is important that he or she should be calm within and allowing concentration to flow smoothly through the hands. It took me a few years to acquire that calm when handling things in public.

There is another problem, and I have no wish to appear unkind when calling your attention to it. It is the fact that most sighted people are rarely asked to describe things in detailed accuracy; but, when they are asked to do so in order to help the blind, they doubt their own abilities and falter over the choice of words. When attempting to describe things to the deaf-blind, they are inclined to question their own spelling ability and will replace an adequate word of des-





*Wally Thomas examines an African mask at the Touch Gallery in Cape Town.*

cription with something easier to spell, and all the time they are moving away from the truth.

All that being so, you will readily appreciate why I wasn't feeling entirely confident when I arrived at the Touch Gallery, but Sandra Eastwood quickly dispelled any apprehensions I may have been harbouring. Her slender and sensitive hands lightly held the backs of my hands, leaving my finger-tips and palms free to feel the objects. She would firstly guide my hands gently over the general outline of the object, and then she would start detailing. There were those occasions when she would glide my hands over a detail again, again and again, until she was convinced I had recognised the true significance of what she was trying to impart and the artist had wished to express. Yet she did not speak a word to me. She concentrated intensely when guiding my hands, and at the same time she read my hands and face for the first signs of comprehension. Then we would move on to the next detail, and when all the details had been explained in fascinating manner, she would again run my hands over the general outline, and I knew I was

wearing a large smile of enlightenment.

Before being wounded, I rather fancied myself as something of an artist, because I had been keen on quick sketching, but Sandra, without speaking a word to me, introduced me to the finer points of art. She has also inspired me to take an active interest in sculpturing, and to her I am deeply grateful.

**WALLY THOMAS**

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.*

**Reginald Chapman**, of Cambridge, joined St. Dunstan's in November. He served with the 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment during the Second World War, and was a prisoner of war in the Far East for three years. He is married, with one son.



## European Conference on Culture

As part of the R.N.I.B. delegation I attended this conference, organised by the Polish Association for the Blind under the auspices of the European Regional Committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind.

The aim of the conference was to exchange accounts of experiences and discuss problems of cultural life, physical exercise and recreation for the Blind, particularly as they relate to rehabilitation and integration into their own society.

Apart from the debates, a tour of the local environment and a display of work and the achievements of the Polish Blind were also arranged.

The Conference was held from 30th September to 3rd October 1975 in the Palace of Culture and Science in the centre of Warsaw; a very impressive building, constructed by the Russians as a monument to Lenin.

The other members of our delegation were the chief delegate, Miss A. White, the R.N.I.B. Sports Officer; Mr. C. Cohn, Mr. J. Benoy and Mr. D. Teager. Sixty-four delegates represented eighteen countries: Belgium; Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; West Germany; Greece; Hungary; Holland; Norway; Poland; Spain; Sweden; United Kingdom; Yugoslavia.

It was evident from the many good papers presented that the European organisers of Rehabilitation, Sport and Recreation for the Blind were working very hard towards unity of the blind organisations, with the aim that Sport and Recreation should be conducted by them instead of by the International Sports Organisations for the Disabled (I.S.O.D.).

Draft recommendations on Sporting, Cultural and Leisure Activities were drawn up, among other things emphasising the need for an internationally-integrated approach in the three spheres of the conference: competitions in more of the popular games should be organised on an international basis; publicity should be given to the fact that participation in cultural activities helped in the attainment of a fulfilled life, despite the handicap of blindness, and to this end newly-blind people should be encouraged to learn Braille; and that for all individuals well-arranged leisure pursuits helped bring about an awareness of life, which should be encouraged by the Blind organisations.

The twenty recommendations were adopted by the conference participants, for presentation to the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, with the aim of having them adopted internationally.

## International Olympiad of Sport

A mini-sports day was held at Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium for the Paralysed and other Disabled, on Saturday 25th October, to select a team to represent Great Britain in the 1976 Olympiad for the Physically Disabled in Toronto, Canada, from 3rd to 10th August 1976.

This will comprise Paraplegic, Amputees and Visually Handicapped sections. There were approximately sixty competitors in the Visually Handicapped section competing for a place; of these, a dozen were St. Dunstaners, who attend the annual Multi-disabled Games at Stoke Mandeville, this year winning 22 medals between them in the field, track and swimming events.

The St. Dunstaners were: *A. Carter;*

*J. Cope; E. Jinks; W. Miller; T. Parkinson; R. Peart; N. Perry; P. Spencer; T. Tatchell.* Their ages ranged from under 30 to our veteran Charles Stafford, who is over 60. All are to be congratulated on their efforts, bearing in mind that the ages of the other Visually Handicapped competitors averaged just over 20. Our special congratulations to **T. Parkinson** and **R. Peart**, who were selected as part of the fourteen-strong Visually Handicapped section of the British team, T. Parkinson in the Shot, Discus and Javelin events and R. Peart in the Pentathlon.

I know you will all join me in wishing them every success in Toronto next year.

*J. CARNOCHAN*



# READING TIME

## by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 253*

### **The Truce**

by Primo Levi

Translated by Stuart Woolf

*Read by David Geary*

*Reading Time 7½ hours*

Early in 1945 the author was liberated from Auschwitz by the Russians. But it was to be many weary and frustrating months before he was to see his native Italy.

After a stay in a transit camp, the Italians were loaded onto a cattle-truck train—destination unknown.

Thus began their extraordinary journeyings, covering many hundreds of miles, backwards and forwards across Europe. They crossed the vast Russian Steppes, travelled through Poland and Roumania. Sometimes the train passed through the same town more than once. They were put up at camps along the route, for a few days, a few weeks.

The Russians with the party were in no way hostile and fed their charges when,—and if—they could. They simply did not know what to do with the human freight.

Guards and ex-POWs alike were in a kind of limbo, at the mercy of the crass ineptitude of the Soviet bureaucratic machine.

Then, suddenly, incredibly, it was all over. The train headed for the Brenner Pass and home.

This book is written with tolerance and good humour, full of anecdote and small adventures. I enjoyed it.

*Cat. No. 810*

### **An Episode of Sparrows**

by Rumer Godden

*Read by Stephen Jack*

*Reading Time 7½ hours*

Catford Street is a typical London back-street. Twelve-year-old Lovejoy Mason lives, semi-permanently, with the childless couple who keep the little restaurant. Her mother is on the stage (this would seem to be the less lucrative of her two professions).

One day Lovejoy "finds" a packet of flower seeds and this gives her the idea of making a garden. But there is no soil in

Catford Street. She enlists the unwilling aid of "Tip" Malone and together they raid the sacrosanct gardens of The Square, a nearby area of very plushy, very large houses. They make a secret garden in a corner of a bombed-out churchyard.

Lovejoy acquires (by extremely dubious means) more seeds and plants. Her insatiable demand for still more soil proves their undoing. On yet another night-raid they are caught black-handed.

The children are confronted by the arch-enemy, the natural leader of The Square set, a formidable spinster with the sympathetic understanding of a Hanging Judge. She insists upon sending for the police. This sets off a chain-reaction affecting the lives of many people.

This is an utterly delightful story, sometimes a little sad, often very funny, told with compassion and sensitivity. Not to be missed.

*Cat. No. 132*

### **The Mission**

by Hans Habe

*Read by George Hagan*

*Reading Time 13 hours*

Professor Heinrich von Bender is a distinguished Viennese surgeon with an international reputation. But he is also a Jew and the year is 1938.

A thirty-two nation conference on refugees is to be held at a town on the French-Swiss border. The Germans send the Professor—as "the Jewish representative"—with an "offer". They are prepared to sell Jews (worthless merchandise) to any of the member-nations at 250 dollars a head. At the conference a Gestapo agent informs the Professor that, should the "offer" be rejected, 100,000 Jews will immediately be arrested.

The conference delegates are deeply distressed at the plight of the Jews. They all have very good reasons why they cannot help. In any case, the story of mass arrests is nonsense. The Germans are a civilised and humane people . . .

The Professor has failed—as, perhaps he was intended to fail. The Jews are to be left to the executioners. And he himself is under sentence of death—from angina.



# THE SPECIAL BRIGADE—60 YEARS ON

On the anniversary of the Battle of Loos, 25th September each year, the "Special Brigade" holds its reunions. Sixty years ago was that battle, and at the Imperial Hotel they talked it over yet again, reminisced and exchanged the last year's news.

Frank O'Kelly told us something of the history of the Special Brigade. "Soon after the German gas attack in April 1915, the British High Command decided to take some form of retaliation, and put their heads together and choose a senior R.E. officer to organise and train a gas corps."

It expanded, "from a small, semi-civilian kind of secret society into a formidable force of 6,000 officers and men (who established for themselves a fine reputation in the British Expeditionary Force), and received no fewer than 557 decorations, the majority of which were 'immediate' awards for gallantry in action.

"We collected at Helfaut in August 1915, where we were welded into the first four special companies of this brigade, which was formed by 50% infantry men and 50% chemists; the whole corps were volunteers.

"Sixty years have passed since those first bleak months", wrote Frank, "yet vivid memories remain of the faces of my comrades. I appreciate the reunions because I enjoy meeting the friends I knew 60 years ago, to be able to talk over the things we did, the mud and filth, the common dangers we shared. We also recall memories of the billets good and bad, and the French peasants with whom we got on so well. The years appear to roll back, and it is as if we are in our youth again.

"The reunions now are held at the Imperial Hotel for luncheon, to give the older men (I being one of the young at 78½) a chance to return to their homes the same day.

"In 1965 at the 50 year jubilee at Eastbourne, 137 members attended; this year the number was approximately 50. The decrease is probably accounted for by the passing on of some, and the fact that others are not fit to make the journey from all corners of the British Isles. I have met Tommy ap Rhys at the last two

reunions, but not Colonel Oriel. Both Tommy and myself volunteered for the trench mortars in March 1916 and left the cylinders. The uniqueness of the Special Brigade will be understood when I say that Tommy came from Bangor University, and I from the Infantry. My own company, "O", is now only five strong, and we are constantly in touch by 'phone or letter'".

Frank reports: "Our last words on saying farewell are 'See you next year'".

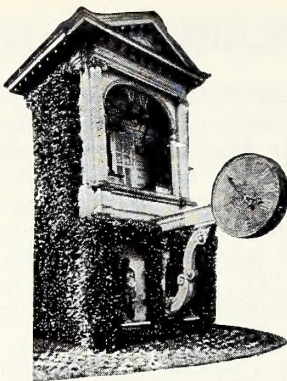
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## A SOUTH AFRICAN ST. DUNSTANER'S TRIBUTE

A Wykehamist St. Dunstaner who wishes to remain anonymous, having discovered that there was no memorial of any kind to Arthur Pearson at Winchester College where he was educated, has recently presented to the School Library a set of the special limited edition in seven volumes of Milton's Prose Works as well Dugdale's Gazetteer on England and Wales (published 1830) in four hard-bound volumes and a copy of Lord Fraser's "My Story of St. Dunstan's" all containing a specially printed book plate which reads as follows:

This book was presented  
by a Wykehamist St. Dunstaner  
In 1975 (the Diamond Jubilee year of St.  
Dunstan's)  
to Moberly Library as a tribute to  
Cyril Arthur Pearson, D house 1883-1886,  
(later Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt. died 1921)  
who by his own enterprise in 1915  
when himself totally blinded  
initiated an entirely new approach  
to the handicap of blindness  
when he founded St. Dunstan's training  
centre  
for blinded Service Men of the 1914-18  
War  
which in later years  
under the able direction of his pupil and  
successor  
Ian Fraser, (himself blinded in the  
1914-18 War)  
set a Pattern which circled the globe like a  
torch  
lighting the path to victory over blindness  
for so many blind people  
In so many lands.





## IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

### French Ham in England

The President of the French Blind Radio Amateurs is someone that St. Dunstaner Ham **Bill Shea** (G4 AUJ) has spoken to many times over the air, and recently they met when Adrien Aufraise (F6 CGA) travelled from Antibes in the South of France to visit his sister in Witney, Oxfordshire. He returned to Paris on 3rd November for the A.G.M. of the Association, and asked Bill to pass on to all St. Dunstaner's Hams his own and his Society's best wishes.

### Swimming Medal

Jumping in the deep end is a fairly popular habit; but when you are blind, and the deep end happens to be at a Blackpool swimming pool, perhaps it takes more than usual courage.

**Vi Delaney** of Liverpool was blinded in an explosion of detonators at the Kirkby Munitions Factory in 1942. Holidaying sometime afterwards with her sister, she took the plunge that led her to make swimming her major hobby. A past President of the Amateur Swimming Association, Mr Austin Rawlinson, met them when he was swimming at Garston with his grand-daughter. He discovered that the two ladies swim 70 lengths of the bath, totalling 1,330 yards, on five days of each week, making them eligible to receive the Association's gold badge, awarded to adults who swim 65,000 yards in under two years as part of their scheme to encourage people to swim regularly for health and fitness.

The picture, from the *Liverpool Daily Post*, shows the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Owen Doyle, pinning the badge on Vi's lapel, at a presentation

ceremony at the Town Hall. Needless to say the supreme gold award is now Vi's target, for which she has to clock up another 410,000 yards in two years. She says they are going to go out for this as quickly as possible.

"We gradually built up to swimming 70 lengths a day over the last 12 years. The first ten lengths are the hardest, but after that you get into the rhythm of it.

"We have a target never to swim less than 70 lengths a day, and sometimes we go over that to 80 or more. Usually, it takes us about an hour. When you are blind you aren't able to get much exercise, but with swimming you can make up for it.

"It is also so relaxing. All my tension goes as soon as I get in the pool. You are not worrying about traffic or getting bumped all the time."





# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Matthew Dunkley* of Northampton, are pleased to announce that their son Martin was married to Miss Lynette Bosworth on 18th October.

## Ruby Wedding

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. James Nash* of Jersey, Channel Islands, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 25th November 1975. Mrs. Nash has now recovered from the broken wrist and other injuries which she sustained recently in a car crash.

## Diamond Wedding

Warmest congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Smith*, of Rottingdean, Sussex, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 11th December, 1975.

## Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bilcliff* of Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire on the birth of a grand-daughter; Claire Marie, born on 3rd October to their son Robert and his wife Gail.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blundell* of Warrington, Lancs., on the birth of a grandchild on 7th August; a second son, Stephen for their son John and daughter-in-law Irene.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Fallowfield*, on the birth of their eighth and ninth grandchildren; a son, Ben, and a daughter, Naomi, for his grand-daughter, Janet, who is Mrs. D. Wigney of Trentham, Victoria, Australia.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas Morrish* of Peacehaven, Sussex on the birth of their second grandchild, a son for their daughter Margaret and son-in-law Roger Bruce on 12th October, at Warrandyte, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

## Great Grandparents

### Our congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Ashby Ward Smith*, of Falmouth, Cornwall, whose identical twin grand-daughters, Mrs. Penny Williams and Mrs. Suzanne Monson have both recently had sons; Ross James, born on 30th October to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and Darren James, born on 11th November to Mr. and Mrs. Monson.

## JUDO CHAMPION

Kevin Mooney, son of *Mr. and Mrs. John Mooney* of Moston, Manchester, recently came third in his weight in the National Judo Championships held at Coventry. He is a Brown Belt, and now has a bronze medal. We send our congratulations! Kevin and his father both work at Hawker Siddley Aviation Ltd., where Kevin is a trainee craftsman.

## Record Poultry

*William Duncan Alexander*, of Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire, has just retired from poultry-keeping. Not unusual — but William has kept hens since 1917, which is surely a record for a St. Dunstan's poultry-keeper! When he gave up his poultry farm at the end of 1975 he had about 100 hens. Until a year ago he personally scythed the grass on his land.

We send him our best wishes for a very happy retirement.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mark Britton* of Nottingham, whose wife Frances died on 5th November.

*Edward James Dadswell*, of Perivale, London, on the death of his Father, Mr. J. Dadswell, on 22nd November 1975, aged 85.

*Theodore Leonard Giles*, of Saltdean, Sussex, whose Father died on 16th November 1975 in Wakefield, Yorkshire.

*Sidney Jones* of Manchester, on the death of his mother on 9th November.



# In Memory —

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

**George Bell.** *36th Bn., A.I.F.*

George Bell, of Augusta, Western Australia, died on the 3rd November, 1975, at the age of 82.

He served with the Australian Forces in the First War and later played an active part in the blinded soldiers' organisations in Australia. He came to England twice in recent years, visiting relatives and getting in touch with St. Dunstan's.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. L. E. Bell.

**William Edward Moeran Blandy, M.A.**

*1/4th Royal Berks.*

W. E. M. Blandy, of Bucklebury, Berkshire, died in a nursing home on the 30th November, 1975, at the age of 88.

He was a solicitor who was commissioned and served in the First War. He came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1917, and then returned to his family firm in Reading, from which he finally retired in 1959. He took a great interest in the work of other ex-Servicemen and was very active with the Royal British Legion. His wife died some years ago and he lived quietly in the country, moving to a nursing home when his health failed.

He leaves a son and daughter and their families and other relatives.

**Harry Anderson Danby.** *Tank Corps.*

Harry Anderson Danby, of Chelston, Devonshire, has died at the age of 88.

He served in the Tank Corps throughout the First World War. For a number of years he was Manager of a grocery shop, then worked in a local Food Office until he retired in 1955 and left Skegness to live in Torquay.

When he was a young man he was a Church organist, and sang in the choir, and in his retirement he continued his musical interests.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Mary Danby, and other members of his family.

**John Alfred Goddard.** *Bedfordshire Regiment.*

John Alfred Goddard of Great Amwell, Hertfordshire, died on 25th November 1975, at the age of 79. During the First World War he served in the Bedfordshire Regiment, and was wounded in 1916. He became a St. Dunstaner in February 1975.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Florence Goddard, and other members of his family.

**Mrs. Maureen Violet Lees.** *A.T.S.*

Mrs. Maureen Violet Lees of Birkenhead, Merseyside, died at her home on 4th November at the age of 76.

She joined the Women's Service towards the

end of World War I, and rejoined the A.T.S. in 1939, after marrying between the Wars, and reached the rank of C.Q.M.S. Her sight began to fail during 1944, and the following year she came to St. Dunstan's where she trained in weaving. When she returned home she set up a workshop in Birkenhead. She became involved in work for the war disabled in her home area, organising shows of goods made not only by herself but by other St. Dunstaners and other disabled people generally, for which she will be remembered by many of her contemporaries.

**Samuel Preston Leigh.** *Suffolk Regiment.*

Samuel Preston Leigh, of Maidstone, Kent, died on the 6th December, 1975, at the age of 80.

He served and was commissioned in the First War, and was severely wounded at Gallipoli. He worked with I.C.I. until he retired and his sight and general health failed seriously at a later date. He came to St. Dunstan's just a year ago and his wife died about the same time.

He leaves a nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. T. Every-Brown.

**Samuel Charles Loram.** *Royal Engineers.*

Samuel Charles Loram, of Brixham, South Devon, died on 6th December 1975 at the age of 79. He served as a Sapper with the Royal Engineers in the First World War, and became a St. Dunstaner in 1919. He was known as "Our Sam" to many fellow St. Dunstaners and staff at Headquarters and at our Brighton Homes. Prior to enlistment he had been a seaman, and was justifiably proud of his eldest son, Jack's recent promotion to the rank of Commander in the Royal Navy. For many years he was a member of the British Legion, and to honour his services he was made a life President. A British Legion funeral service was held on 10th December.

He leaves five sons and two daughters, all with families, and his sister, Mrs. E. C. Williams and her husband.

**Robert Redfern, D.F.C.** *Royal Air Force.*

Robert Redfern, of Hornsea, North Humberside, died at home on the 4th December, 1975, aged 82 years.

He served in the First War, being commissioned in the R.A.F. in its early days, and was severely injured. He came to St. Dunstan's only a few months ago, by which time his sight had failed and he was seriously ill.

He leaves a widow, Dr. Elizabeth Redfern, two sons and two daughters.

**Harry Stocks.** *Royal Engineers.*

Harry Stocks of Heage, near Belper, Derbyshire, died on 28th November 1975, aged 87.

During the First World War he served as a Sapper with the Royal Engineers, and suffered mustard gas poisoning. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1971, when he retired from his work as a miner.

He was a widower, and leaves five children and their families.





Mine Hosts-  
Peter & Margaret



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 671

FEBRUARY 1976

10p MONTHLY

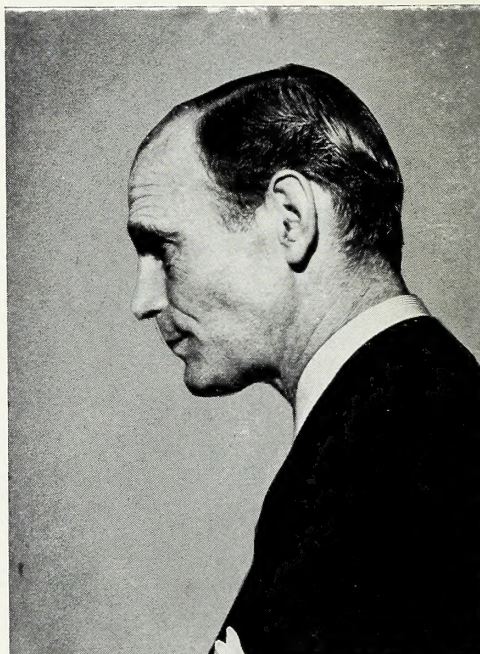
## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Everyone connected with St. Dunstan's suffered a grievous loss when Nigel Pearson died suddenly on December 8th after a short illness. I know that you will all wish to join with me in extending deep sympathy to his widow, Lady Frances Pearson, his father, Sir Neville, and to all his relatives and friends.

Nigel, only son of our President, Sir Neville Pearson, joined the Council of St. Dunstan's in July 1965 and was appointed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee in May 1974.

Born on the 30th August, 1925, Nigel Pearson was educated at Eton and in the United States. He served in the Army before joining his father's family business, Newnes Pearson. Later he worked at Helena Rubinstein's and retired in 1975 when he and his wife moved to Wales to farm and breed ponies.

Nigel Pearson will be greatly missed on the Council of St. Dunstan's. He attended our meetings regularly and made many helpful contributions to our discussions. He also presided at a number of Reunions, and in 1973 he gave the address at the annual Founder's Day Service with an impressive speech commemorating the great work of his Grandfather and of our then Chairman, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale.



*A characteristic study of Nigel Pearson.*

## Bank Accounts

At a recent staff conference, I was told that a number of St. Dunstaners still do not have Bank accounts and may even run the risk of keeping quite large sums of money in their homes. I know Lord Fraser always advised you all to have Bank accounts, as a convenient, simple and, above all, safe way to deal with your pensions and other income and I should like to repeat his advice most strongly.

Any Bank Manager would be pleased to help you to open an account. If you would like to have a Bank account with Barclays Bank (St. Dunstan's bankers), you should write to Mr. E. V. Stevens at Headquarters and tell him which branch would be nearest to your home and then he will arrange matters. For anyone who has not got an account, I suggest that opening one would be a very good way to start 1976!

**COVER PICTURE:** *This cartoon photograph adorns the bar of the General Havelock, North Shields. The story of "Mine Hosts" is told in Ways of Life starting on centre pages.*



## Christmas Cards

My wife and I would like to thank all those who sent us such attractive Christmas cards. We were delighted to hear from many St. Dunstaners and their families, widows and other friends. We are very grateful for the many personal messages enclosed with them.

ION GARNETT-ORME

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### MR NIGEL PEARSON

The funeral of Mr. Nigel Pearson, to whom a tribute is paid by our Chairman earlier in the *Review*, took place at Hampstead Cemetery during the afternoon of Tuesday the 16th December.

At the request of the family the service was conducted by the Rev. Popham-Hosford, St. Dunstan's Padre, and our Chairman read the Lesson, the 13th Chapter of St. Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians. Mr. Pearson was buried in the family vault with his illustrious grandfather, Sir Arthur Pearson, founder of St. Dunstan's.

With Lady Frances Pearson were members of her family: Viscount and Viscountess Kemsley, Mr. Arthur and Lady Georgina Coleridge, sisters and brothers-in-law, and Mrs. Neil Smith, niece. Mr. Pearson's two sisters were also there; they were Lady Glenkinglas accompanied by Lord Glenkinglas, and Mrs. Robert Hardy and Mr. Pearson's half-brother, Mr. Christopher Hordern, with his wife.

In addition to our Chairman, St. Dunstan's was represented by Mr. Wills and Commander Buckley from Headquarters, and Paul Nuyens represented St. Dunstaners in London. Matron Blackford from Ian Fraser House was accompanied by George Coote and Eddie Allchin, and Matron Hallett from Pearson House was accompanied by Joe Langley and Horace Kerr.

In his address, Mr. Popham Hosford said:

"We are here to care for one another, as has been the inspiration of people from generation to generation, and it has been this love that made Nigel what he was. It is always a bitter blow to see a life finished at such an early age and at the beginning of a fresh venture. Nigel

and Frances had only just started a new life in Wales, when he was taken.

St. Dunstan's loses in Nigel one who was already showing how worthy an inheritor he would be of his Father's and Grandfather's great service to St. Dunstan's. We always looked forward to his appearance at the Founder's Memorial Service. He was so cheerful and had the common touch.

Though we at St. Dunstan's must regret his going, though his friends and family mourn, our thoughts must mostly be with Frances to whom Nigel was devoted, and shared his life, his interests, and above all his joyous enthusiasm. They lived together, in such a close and delightful way, unselfishly giving to each other. Although one has gone from that partnership, his love lives on and will give that extra strength to Frances.

He has gone to a greater life and may God give special comfort and help to his widow."

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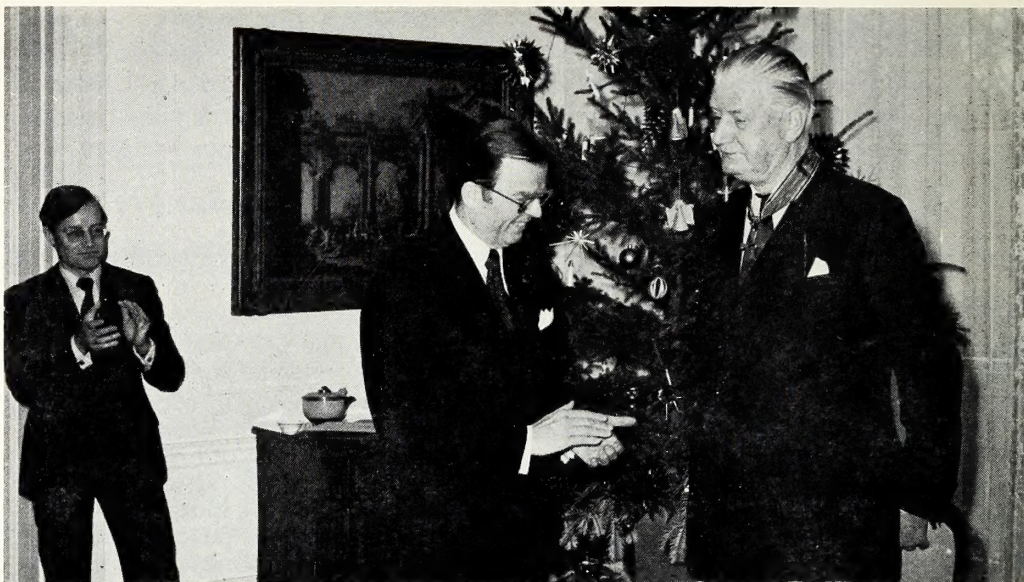
## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.*

**James Fraser** of Maidstone, Kent, joined St. Dunstan's on 3rd December 1975. During the Second World War he served in the R.A.F., and was a prisoner-of-war in Java. He is married, and is employed as a telephonist.





*H.E. Herr Karl-Günther von Hase, the German Ambassador, applauds Colonel Sir Mike Ansell after investing him with the insignia.*

## **West Germany Honours Our Vice-Chairman**

At a reception given by H.E. the German Ambassador and Frau von Hase at the West German Embassy in Belgrave Square on Thursday 18th December, a very high honour was conferred on our Vice-Chairman, Col. Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L. Among those present were Mrs. Williams, Sir Michael's sister, and Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme, and a number of well-known people from the world of horses in both Britain and Germany.

Before decorating Sir Michael with the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit, the Ambassador spoke of Sir Michael's tireless work for horsemanship in Britain and abroad, and of his work for the war-blinded.

The following is an abridged version of the Ambassador's and Sir Michael's speeches:

Herr von Hase said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the foreword to Sir Michael's book 'Soldier On' His Royal Highness Prince Philip has written: 'The happiest mortals are those who are consumed by an abiding passion'. I should add to this motto another one. Originating from an Outward Bound school in the Lake

District which has close connections with Prince Philip; the motto says 'To serve, to strive and not to yield'.

"Sir Michael had a very promising career as a professional soldier and was the youngest Commanding Officer in the Army in 1940. Disaster struck him when he was blinded at St. Valéry. Since then Sir Michael has fought full of stamina to overcome this handicap and we see him now as a past Chairman of the British Show Jumping Association and The British Horse Society, and now as President of the British Equestrian Federation. With his talent for organisation and deep devotion for the equestrian life Sir Michael managed to organise equestrian shows at a level which it will be difficult to surpass. But Sir Michael didn't restrict his efforts in the field of equitation to his own country. It is very much due to his personal effort that my country's equitation reached international reputation again after the War. He helped to open the way for our fellow countrymen to participate in international tournaments. He also gave valuable advice for the furthest development of riding in Germany—and he did all this for a former enemy of war during which he lost his eyesight.

"Having learned Braille in a P.O.W. camp, St. Dunstan's arranged for him to



learn horticulture when he was repatriated.

"Since then Sir Michael has become very actively involved in the work of this organisation for the care and training of the war-blinded. He is the only blinded member of St. Dunstan's Council apart from the late Lord Fraser, and a year ago he became the Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's. Also under this head he improved the relations between the St. Dunstan's organisation and the war-blinded in Germany. He visited Germany several times. During his different lives as a soldier, as an equestrian, as a gardener, as a St. Dunstaner and as a member of a great family Sir Michael has become a living symbol of good sportsmanship and bravery.

"The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Herr Walter Scheel, has instructed me to present the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany to Sir Michael in recognition of his services to German equitation and war-blinded. In presenting the decoration to Sir Michael we include also our sincerest thanks and the expression of the high admiration we all have for him."

### The Reply

Sir Michael Ansell:

"Your Excellency,

I thank you personally for bestowing upon me this great honour and I hope you will express my gratitude to the President of your Republic. I am very moved and honoured and yet feel very humble.

"I spent three-and-a-half years as a prisoner of war, and no one could have had better medical treatment in an endeavour to save my sight. When locked up I was fortunate to find two great friends. Dr. Meyer, who is here today, operated on me on three or four occasions. He is certainly a great eye specialist, but he was an even greater companion, for when he visited me six days a week (the seventh was when he went shooting in the countryside) he encouraged me. The other, Oberst or Colonel Martin, was the Commandant of a P.O.W. camp in Rouen. It was entirely thanks to him that I was sent from Rouen for treatment in a German Military hospital in Paris under Dr. Meyer. Oberst Martin used to come



*A reunion handshake after thirty years;  
Colonel Sir Mike greets Dr. Meyer.*

once a fortnight to Paris, and always came to see me and brought my wife's letters. He used to talk a great deal to me and gave me the best advice I ever had. 'If you are worth a damn you only remember the good things in life'. This I have always tried to do.

"Since the war I have had endless interest in the world of equestrian sports. I hoped all would get the pleasure I had from the horse. I honestly believe that well-governed sport can perhaps stop wars. None of us really wants to fight, and certainly in the world of the horse we never do.

"Your Excellency, once again, I only hope you realise how proud I am of this great honour you have bestowed upon me, and how much since the War we have enjoyed being with your riders."

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### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

All members of the staff at Headquarters, Estate, Industrial and Welfare Visitors, and staff at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House, thank St. Dunstaners for their greetings over the festive season. Their good wishes are heartily reciprocated.





*Norman Smith with members of the London Club and the Address which was presented to him; from left to right, Les Douglass, Jerry Lynch, Vera Kimmish and Harry Meleson.*

*Norman and Flora cut their cake.*



## Norman Smith Retires

The St. Dunstaners who attend the London Club and the Staff at Headquarters were very sorry to say goodbye to Mr. Norman Smith, who retired at the end of December after ten years' service as Steward of the London Club. Mr. Smith's willing help and cheerful personality made him very popular and he will be sadly missed.

All at Headquarters join in wishing Norman and Flora the best of health and happiness in their retirement.

**C. D. WILLS**

## Tributes to Norman and Flora

*From W. Miller, Chairman, London Club*

"ear all, see all, say nowt',  
eat all, sup all, pay nowt',  
if ever tha' das' owt' for nowt',  
allas do it for th' sen'."

The Yorkshireman's motto, and if Norman Smith had lived up to, or down to this motto, there would have been little for me, or anyone else to write about.

It was in the Autumn of 1965, when Norman took over as manager of the



London Club, and began to mould it to his character. The atmosphere became one of warmth and happiness, and feelings ran deeper than mere friendship. The members became so devoted to him, that no-matter where there was to be a gathering of St. Dunstaners, his presence was demanded, whether it be at the Harcourt or Harrogate or Saltdean bridge congress, and at the London Reunions there was always scrummage to sit at Norman's table.

So devoted to his friends did Norman become, that he travelled all over the south of England, visiting members at their homes, joining them in their good times and their sorrows. Any member could guarantee that, should he fall ill, Norman would be along, on his day off, bringing with his cheery self a cheering word, and some small token of good tidings.

Little wonder, that when his time for retirement came, we at the London Club were not filled with the usual rejoicing, for we knew that the time had come to say goodbye to one for whom we all had deep affection.

His absence from the London Club will be felt for some time to come, but we will, eventually recover, and in the meantime I and all the members and their wives, and other friends of the London Club wish Norman, and Flora his wife, a long, healthy and happy retirement.

*From Paul Nuyens*

It was Saturday morning, 3rd January, that a van, drawn up in St. Dunstan's forecourt, was busily being loaded with the belongings of our friend, Norman Smith, while as the job was almost finished another van drew up bringing in the furniture of his successor, Ian Dickson. A few more minutes with the habitual cup of tea, and Flora and Norman seated themselves in their son Ken's car: there were a few hoots, as the car disappeared round the corner on its long journey to Yorkshire, to hand waves of "Goodbye and God Bless You". Thus ended a ten years' devoted service to St. Dunstan's and to all concerned with this great organisation.

Norman, who arrived in October, 1965, soon after the return of the Bridge Party

from their annual visit to Harrogate, quickly absorbed the dedicated atmosphere of St. Dunstan's shown throughout its existence by so many members of the staff. So started his close association with me as Captain of the Bridge Club, which as time went on developed into a solid friendship, during which I came to recognise in full his constant thought and helpfulness to others.

No words can express how much I shall miss him, but such is life. Being the first to hear of his decision, I was whole-hearted in wishing him the best of luck in his coming retirement, and long life to share it with Flora who was only happy when she knew he was happy. His energy was boundless and it was not out of the blue that in one of my addresses on the last night of one of our Harrogate weekends, I referred to him as the Scarlet Pimpernel, for he was always "here, there and everywhere". In fact he was, as a friend quoted in a letter to him, "a round peg in a round hole". I feel certain that all his comrades will join with me in wishing him and his wife every happiness in the future.

Norman's leaving is indeed a sad occasion, and he will ever be remembered by those who had the privilege of knowing him, while I will always miss a real friend.

## NORMAN'S SPEECH

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The very thought of making a speech I find very frightening, and I am not at all sure that I can compose myself sufficiently to express in words what I would really like to say to you all. I do feel, however, that after this presentation and the lovely tribute you have just paid me I must at least attempt a reply. I have been much moved by this occasion and from the bottom of my heart I would like to say "thank you all for everything".

I would like you to know that it is your friendship which you have extended to me over the years that I shall treasure most of all. When I look back, as I shall often do, I shall cherish the many happy memories I shared with you. In the early years the trips to Scotland with the Bowling Club. Taxi outings. Derby Days. The Bridge



Congress at Saltdean. Our annual visit to Harrogate for the Bridge Week. And I shall remember more than anything else in the world the happy times spent in our Club Rooms here in Old Marylebone Road. This has been my home for the past ten years, where I have looked forward to your visits on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and often Sundays, too.

Today, in many ways, is a sad day for me—yet at the same time a happy day. For I see gathered around me a host of good friends. People who by their kindness, and in extending their hand in friendship, have made my work here a pleasure.

Looking back over the years I remember friends who can no longer be with me on this day. Freddie Jackson, Jock Brown, Jim Murray (Grandad to us all), Bill Harding, Bob Cameron, Jimmy Chell, Frank Rhodes, just to mention a few. Names that are like the good old songs—they live on forever. I could not forget Renny Byrne, whose sisters Molly and Eileen—I am happy to say—are here with us today. Not so long ago we mourned the passing of our good and loyal friend, Alf Field. What wonderful people they were.

When I finally take my leave of you and St. Dunstan's on January the 3rd, I have no doubt that I shall find life very empty, but I am happy in as much that my wife Flora will be with me to share my new life in Yorkshire. And I would like to say to Flora—"Thank you for all the help you have given me in the past and in particular at St. Dunstan's. And for giving me the licence to do all the things I have wished to do".

Once again, may I say thank you for this wonderful tribute.

Thank you . . .

God bless you all . . .

## LETTER FROM NORMAN

My wife joins me in my wish to thank our many kind friends for the handsome present received on the occasion of my retirement. This includes the many St. Dunstaners, their wives, visitors and other friends of St. Dunstaners who contributed.

We would also like to give thanks to the participants of the party given for us both

on Thursday evening the 18th of December, 1975.

We shall remember them constantly and hope to meet them all again in the future.

6th January 1976 *NORMAN SMITH*

## BRIDGE NOTES

### LONDON

Saturday 13th December was a very special date in the diary of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club, for two reasons; firstly, we met at the London Club rooms for our annual Christmas Bridge Drive, and secondly, it was the last time that our genial Club Steward, Mr. Norman Smith, would be officiating, prior to his retirement.

The bridge drive, with 11½ tables in play, was a huge success, both from the social point of view and also because of the keen interest taken by all our members in this most absorbing game. When play had terminated, the scores were counted and checked and four winners were announced. Then a scrumptious tea was served by Mr. Smith, and his willing band of helpers, after which we had the pleasure of welcoming to our clubrooms for the first time Mr. and Mrs. Weisblatt from Headquarters, as Mrs. Weisblatt had kindly consented to present the prizes, which she proceeded to do as follows:

- 1st **Paul Nuyens and Miss Molly Byrns**
- 2nd Roy Armstrong and Jack Armstrong (unrelated)
- 3rd Bob Evans and Mrs. Lynn Evans
- 4th Alan Caldwell and Miss Sheila Lyons

A bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Weisblatt by Jerry Lynch for having carried out her duties so graciously.

We came next to the most important event of the afternoon, the presentation to Mr. Norman Smith on the occasion of his retirement, after many years of loyal service. First Vera Kemmish presented Norman with an illuminated address, which had been beautifully



framed. Next Harry Meleson gave to Mrs. Flora Smith a bouquet of flowers as a token of the appreciation which we all felt towards her for the help she had given both to Norman and the Club in general. After this Jerry Lynch, our Captain, presented Norman with a cheque which had been subscribed for by members and friends of the Bridge Club, and finally Norman responded with a moving and well phrased speech, thanking everybody for their gifts and good wishes expressed that afternoon.

This brought the afternoon events to a happy conclusion.

*H. MELESON*  
Secretary

### A GREAT CHARACTER

Once again we mourn the passing away of a dear old comrade; **Sammy Webster**, who died on 8th January.

He was a grand chap, who took an enthusiastic part in all St. Dunstan's activities, such as open-air sports, rowing, running, dancing and even singing in the choir.

When the Bridge Club began just before the last World War, Sammy joined the ranks of players and was, until his death, its esteemed Treasurer, with his wife as his right hand.

He was not a man of long speeches; "straightforward to the point" was his motto and it was not surprising that his sudden well-thought out remarks cutting short long deliberations would be greeted by cries from many in the audience of "Good old Sam".

And so a great character is gone from our midst, deeply missed by all who knew him.

*PAUL NUYENS*

### Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Philip Booth, son of St. Dunstaner *Mr. Peter Booth* and Mrs. Booth, of Somerton, Somerset has received the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, and we send him our congratulations.

### Garden Prizes in Rhodesia

*Bill Megson* of Ovingdean, Brighton, tells us that his son Ronald, has won prizes in a vegetable and flower show in Rhodesia. He is also a keen breeder of Indian River Hens.



## IT STRIKES ME

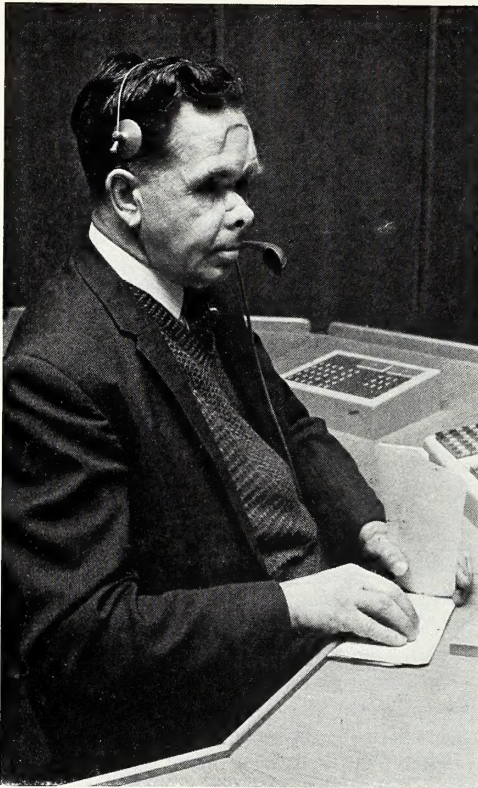
by **Magog**

### Greatly Appealing

In Bromsgrove on 29th November last year the Austin Branch of the Royal British Legion were feeling very pleased with themselves—and with a St. Dunstaner member, **Doug Cashmore**. He topped the collectors for the Poppy Day Appeal, and when the results were announced at the end of November, Doug's total of £150.89 was the highest individual contribution to the final sum of £3,600. On 4th November Doug had been presented with the Life Membership badge, so the Legion must have been gratified to see the honour justified on this occasion! (He was made a Life Member for Meritorious Service in 1949).

To achieve his grand total, Doug, apart from taking two days' leave from his work as a telephonist to sell Poppies, and doing a house-to-house collection, bought trays from some of the St. Dunstaners in the Club and auctioned them in the Legion Branch. In addition, "he grew wonderful Chrysanthemums," writes his wife Joan, "and took bunches upon bunches and auctioned them". He also wrote to the "Evening Mail" and "Bromsgrove Messenger" suggesting that readers "take a look at themselves and decide whether they could do a little more to help those less fortunate than themselves", mentioning the care given at the Star and Garter and Royal British Legion Homes. He appealed to them to help make the £2½ million target reach yet





*Doug Cashmore at his switchboard.*

another half million, for "disabled ex-servicemen and the dependants of those who did not come back. I will be out collecting on November 8th because I consider myself more fortunate than hundreds of others."

Obviously the silver cup, which he will hold for twelve months, the trophy which eventually will be engraved and the half-bottle of whisky presented to Doug for his Poppy Day efforts, were more than deserved.

### **150th Anniversary**

In December we reported, elsewhere in the *Review*, that **Douglas Howard** of Croes y Ceiliog, Cwmbran, Gwent, was to make a visit to Germany at the invitation of his old Regiment (Royal Engineers 16th Field Squadron) to participate in their 150th anniversary celebrations. Doug thoroughly enjoyed the occasion, and writes:

"As a matter of interest to ex-sappers, the 16th Survey Company, Royal Engineers, was formed in the year 1825 at Belfast. This company served in various parts of the United Kingdom and abroad. When I joined it in 1937, it was stationed on the island of Malta, and specialised as a Fortress Anti-aircraft Searchlight Unit.

"The present station for the 16th Field Squadron is Osnabruck, and it was arranged that past members, such as the veterans from Malta, should be invited.

"A party of two coach-loads of these veterans and their wives left London on the morning of Thursday, 20th November, and yours truly was proud to be amongst them.

### **Parade**

"We were entertained royally with banquets and cocktail parties, but the main point of our visit was the parade, naturally held at night, when aspects of the history were shown. A surveyor with his theodolite and then a diver of the first submarine diver service were shown. Then came the searchlight, picking up an aeroplane in its beam. Then all the guns came in, and the scene was really fantastic. It would have done credit to a Hollywood movie. Then the sappers were shown with their mine detectors in Northern Ireland, and finally the drive past of all the armour and equipment, including a detachment of the German army of engineers.

"The march past of the veterans came next, and as I am a mere six foot two, I was a number one leading the old lads. It was very cold, and a flurry of snow came down in our faces as the Royal Engineers Band, Aldershot, led the parade, but I don't think we really felt the cold now as I'm sure we all stuck out our chests another couple of inches.

"There were more than two thousand people in the stands, and without exception they all got to their feet, clapping and cheering. Yes, a really momentous evening never to be forgotten.

Sunday morning, 23rd November, we naturally went on Church Parade, and finished up with lunch in the Officers' Mess, leaving for home amidst cheers for the final time at two-thirty in the afternoon.



## Reunions 1976

All Reunions to be held at 12.15 p.m.  
for 12.45 p.m.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Reunion</i>	<i>Hotel</i>
<i>Saturday, 27th March</i>	<b>Southampton</b> Mrs. Lyall	Polygon
<i>Thursday, 1st April</i>	<b>Ipswich</b> Mrs. Adkins	Copdock
<i>Saturday, 3rd April</i>	<b>Birmingham</b> Miss Newbold Miss Broughton	Albany
<i>Saturday, 1st May</i>	<b>London</b> (Kent & Surrey) Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Russell
<i>Thursday, 13th May</i>	<b>Manchester</b> Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Midland
<i>Saturday, 15th May</i>	<b>Liverpool</b> Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Adelphi
<i>Saturday, 5th June</i>	<b>Brighton</b> Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Metropole
<i>Thursday, 10th June</i>	<b>Newcastle</b> Mrs. Ward Miss Skinner	Royal Station
<i>Saturday, 12th June</i>	<b>Sheffield</b> Miss Broughton Miss Newbold	Hallam Tower
<i>Saturday, 26th June</i>	<b>Bristol</b> Miss Meyer Miss Newbold	Bristol Esso
<i>Saturday, 10th July</i>	<b>London</b> (Central) Miss Davis Miss Newbold	Russell

### ST. DUNSTAN'S CAMP H.M.S. DAEDALUS

The Royal Navy have very generously invited once again a party of St. Dunstaners to spend a week at H.M.S. Daedalus, Lee on Solent. The dates of the camp this year will be from Friday, 13th August, 1976 until the morning of Saturday, 21st August, 1976. The camp fee will be £7 and railway fares over £3 will be refunded.

Will all those wishing to be considered for a place at camp please contact: Miss Elspeth Grant, Flat 1, 7 Craven Hill, London W.2. Telephone (after 6 p.m.) 01-262 2723 *before the last week in May.*

## CLUB NEWS

### BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

#### BRIDGE SECTION

The first of our Individual Competitions was held on Saturday, 3rd January 1976, in the Annexe of Ian Fraser House.

#### Results:

M. Clements and R. Fullard	84
J. Simmons and B. Burnett	68
J. Padley and P. McCormack	66
W. Lethbridge and W. Claydon	66
A. Dodgson and V. Delaney	64
W. Phillips and W. Scott	54
F. Griffee and R. Bickley	36

*W. LETHBRIDGE*

#### Dominoes Aggregate Score for 17th December

##### 1st Equal Scores

**A. Smith, B. Inman**

##### 2nd Equal Scores

J. Padley, C. Walters, Mrs. Padley  
Mrs. Mudge

Mrs. Mudge's name was spelt incorrectly in last month's *Review* (as "Mudd"). Sorry, Mrs. Mudge.

Will all Club members note that after a vote of members present, it was decided that all future club meetings will be on Wednesday afternoons only.

#### ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

Club Dances will be held on 14th February, 13th March, 3rd April, 1st May, 12th June, 10th July, 10th August, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November and 11th December.

These evenings are proving to be very popular and are well supported by local members and also Club members visiting Ian Fraser House from other parts of the country.

#### FISHING SECTION

As stated in last month's *Review*, Boat bookings have been made for 1976 and the dates of the trips are as follows: 17th February; 12th March; 14th May; 23rd July; 20th August; 24th September; 19th November; 10th December.



I hope that any Club member interested in a day's fishing will contact me by letter or telephone (Peacehaven 2290).

If any Club members in employment wish to take part in Sunday trips, this may be arranged if sufficient interest is shown, but it must be fully understood that to obtain a Sunday booking I must be contacted as soon as possible, as these days are quickly taken. Club members taking part will have to provide all their own fishing tackle, life jacket and protective clothing. These are purely Club trips, and are in no way connected with St. Dunstan's organised fishing.

A. DODGSON  
*Fishing Representative*

## LONDON

We were all too pre-occupied during the month of December with the arrangements for Norman Smith's retirement, to think of much else.

We did of course hold our Christmas domino drive, and this was won by Harry Meleson, with Charlie Hancock and Bill Miller sharing second place.

The Christmas bridge drive and presentation to Norman Smith are reported as a separate item in this *Review*.

The New Year has started very quietly, and I would appeal to St. Dunstaners living in the London area, to turn over a new leaf, and come and join us on Thursday evenings at the London Club.

## WALKING

Walking continues at Ewell, but in a very quiet way; here again the shortage of members taking part gives some cause for alarm, and I would remind St. Dunstaners, that there are no speed kings these days, and that if they wish to take some exercise they would be more than welcome to come and join us.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the London Club will be held in the club rooms at 191 Old Marylebone Road, on Saturday, February 7th, at 1.15 p.m.

W. MILLER  
*Chairman*

## MIDLAND

December is quite a gay and social month in the club's calendar. On Sunday 14th we held our Christmas party, at which the children can take part. Once more a beautiful tea was prepared for us by our wives, who each brought something, such as mince pies, trifles, etc. Turkey and pork sandwiches were added to all these goodies, and a Christmas cake rounded off the spread. Everyone sat down and tucked in, and very little was left.

At the end of the tea our Chairman, Joe Kibbler, thanked Mrs. Joan Cashmore for all the good work that she had put in on the club's behalf. With the sale of Christmas cards, etc., she raised the wonderful sum of £48.17 which will help greatly towards the costs of future activities.

When the spoils of the meal had been cleared away we all gathered in the lounge to await the arrival of Father Christmas. He gave each of the children a present, and then told each lucky recipient in the domino games to come along and choose their prize. These members were as follows:

### Sir Arthur Pearson Knock-out Competition

- 1st Joe Kibbler
- 2nd Guy Bilcliff
- 3rd Doug Faulkner and Lorry Rea

### Doubles Competition

- 1st Mr. and Mrs. G. Bilcliff
- 2nd Mr. and Mrs. L. Androlia
- 3rd Mr. W. Green and  
Mrs. E. Tomporowski;  
Mr. and Mrs. D. Faulkner

Each member not winning a prize was given an envelope containing a Christmas box. It was then time to open the bottles and fill up the glasses, and wish each other all the best.

Our guests at this meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Ted Holt from the Langley Royal British Legion and Mr. and Mrs. Joe McKenzie of the Austin Branch, Royal British Legion; he is a member of the County Committee of the Region. We were very pleased to have them with us, and look forward to their company once again in the near future.



The following Saturday, 20th December, was the date of our Christmas Dinner, once again held by the Austin Branch of the Royal British Legion. On arrival everyone was met by the Branch President, Mr. George Queen, and before going in to take our places at the tables we were all given a glass of sherry by the E.C. of the Branch.

Our Guest of Honour at this function was Miss C. Mosley, who had travelled up from London to be with us at the Dinner. She was accompanied by Miss I. Newbold.

It was a first-class meal, and was prepared and served for us by the stewardess, Mrs. Ann Swinnerton. It was all piping hot and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

Mr. Queen, in his after-dinner speech, said how happy he was to be with St. Dunstaners once more, and wished that we would make more visits to the Austin Branch during the year; an open invitation was always there for us.

When the meal was over and the tables cleared we all settled down to join in the evening's dancing. Unfortunately Miss Mosley and Miss Newbold had to leave before this started, as Miss Mosley had to catch her return train to London.

Before leaving she had a chat with everyone present, and we were very happy to have her with us: I do know that Miss Mosley thoroughly enjoyed the evening and was very sorry that she had to leave so early. Let us hope that she will be able to join us at another of our events.

This was the final event in our club calendar for 1975. It has been a good year socially, with a couple of outings and two social evenings; with the rising cost of everything this has been quite good, and I only hope that we can do as well in 1976.

### **New Members Welcome**

We are always looking for new members, and all St. Dunstaners are very welcome. Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month, commencing at 3 p.m. at the Headquarters of the Royal British Legion, Thorp Street, Birmingham. There is no charge to join us, we simply hold a tea collection to defray the cost of the tea, and there is always a raffle. Why not give it a trial.

Unfortunately I now have to end on a very sad note. I am very sorry to have to report the death of our Club Treasurer, Louis Androlia. Louis had been a real stalwart of this club for many, many years; he and his wife, Cath, rarely missed a meeting. He passed away very suddenly at home on Saturday, 27th December. Louis will be sadly missed by all who knew him, and our club meetings will seem very empty for a long time without his company. To his wife, Cath, his sons and daughters-in-law we offer our deepest sympathy. I, personally, will miss Louis very much; since taking over as Treasurer he has kept a keen eye on club finances, and with his wife's help has done a grand job. Wherever the club has gone Louis has been known for his Stetson hat and has had his leg pulled about it, but good sport as he was he always had an answer.

Eight St. Dunstaners, with their wives, all members of this club, attended the funeral on Tuesday, 6th January at Handsworth Cemetery, Birmingham. Also with our contingent was Mr. Joe MacKenzie, of the Birmingham County and Austin Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Many beautiful floral tributes were laid, including a wreath in the shape of St. Dunstan's badge, laid on behalf of the Midland club.

In his address, Canon Douglas Maclean, who is also Resident Priest of Birmingham Cathedral, said what a wonderful family man Louis had been. I am sure that all who knew Louis would certainly agree with this.

A very warm and sincere invitation has been extended to Mrs. Cath Androlia to attend our club meetings and outings once again as soon as she feels well enough to do so. The prayers and thoughts of all club members are with you, Cath, in your very sad loss.

*DOUG CASHMORE, Secretary*

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Miss Diana Hoare, known to walkers, campers and "Sutton Club Members" moved on 14th January to: 3 Clausentum Road, St. Cross, Winchester, Hampshire. If any of her friends are in that neighbourhood she would be delighted to be visited. She hopes to be on the 'phone later.



North Shields is not the prettiest town in the North-East. Situated on the Tyne, with its twin, South Shields, on the opposite side of the river, its main industries are shipping and shipbuilding, fishing, engineering and mining. Part of the centre of town is demolished, awaiting development, and overlooking this temporary open space is the General Havelock public house. I went in, leaving the tough, Northern environment outside to find the warm, Northern welcome within from licensees, Peter and Margaret Logan.

Very often in this series the way of life of the subject depends a great deal upon his wife. Peter and Margaret are an outstanding example of this, working together as a team. Margaret's father is a publican and she worked for him during the early years of her marriage. In the three years or so since they took over their first pub in Sunderland, she has taught Peter the skills of the licensed trade, particularly cellar work. Not many husbands would take to being taught by their wives but Peter proved to be a good pupil, commenting, "Anybody that knows the job better than me can show us it."

Peter was serving in the Royal Navy when his sight began to fail: "I was a ward-room chef. My idea was to do my 22 years, come out and use some of my pension to get into this trade where you can mix the catering with the beer. That was always my plan."

When he was discharged from the Navy he had lost the sight of one eye. He worked as Head Chef for a teacher training college at Alnwick Castle. "I started off when they used to have 120 students. By the time I finished I was cooking for about 450."

In that time, seven years, he had undergone fruitless operations to save his sight. It was a difficult period, "Your hopes being raised and then dashed and then raised and coming down again." The last operation was carried out to save the optic nerve in one eye. It was, perhaps, an act of faith to agree to it but later, after Peter came to St. Dunstan's in 1968, Mr. Cross was able to restore a little vision. "This was the eye I had the operation to save the optic nerve. If I'd been squeamish and said No, I would never have got any sight back."

## WAYS OF LIFE 28

### EVERY DAY IS DIFFERENT

#### Talking to David Castleton

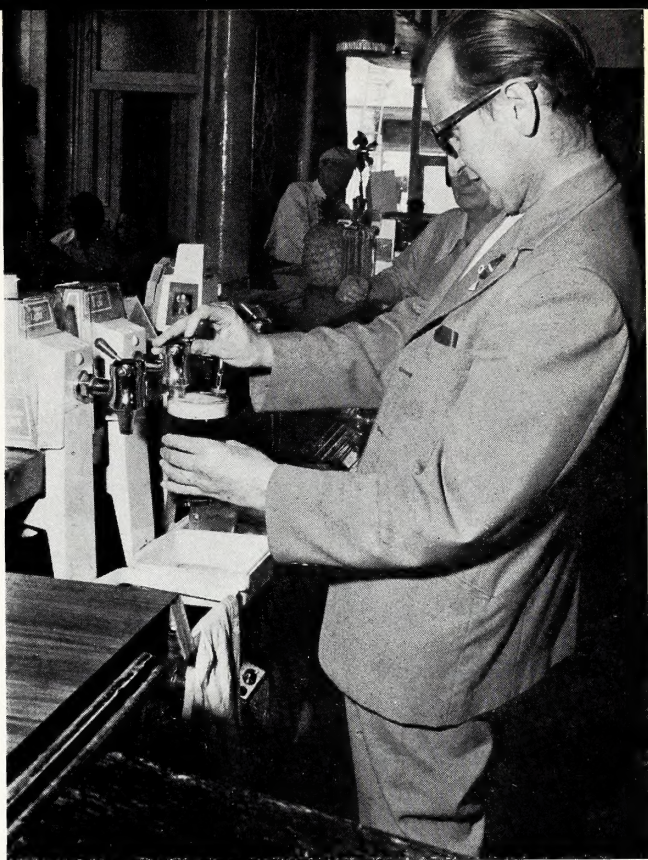
That tiny amount of vision was the key to Peter returning to his original plan to enter the licensed trade but before that he worked in engineering at Worthing in Sussex. "I've got a very good reputation in engineering down in Worthing in about four or five different factories, through blokes who were setting machines for me who moved to other factories. At that time they were doing tubes for cash registers. They had to be right within a thou and a half. I used to cut them on the lathe by the million and then I'd sit there for about three weeks on end checking them on an audio comparator. If a job is worth doing, it's worth doing right, isn't it?"

Engineering experience has been an asset to Peter in his work in the cellar where, in the poor light, he is totally blind and works by touch. "Changing gas cylinders, kegs and that—the engineering helped there because it was what I was used to, a spanner, a nut and a washer."

Throughout the pub everything is kept in the same place. "We've got everything



er Logan



*The 'Logan Team'*

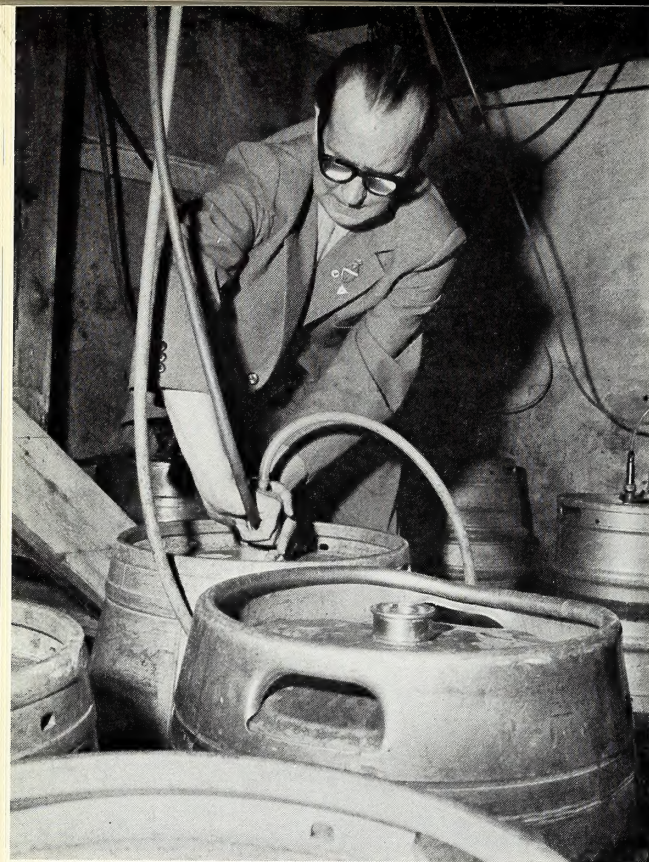
so that I know where it is. In the cellar the hoses to the taps are all hanging in separate positions. The fitting I first put on for the Heavy Beer, you notice the gas tap was straight opposite on the stairs. Now the other Heavy one, that's three or four barrels along, the gas fitting for that is under the stairs. They're well separated; you can't switch the wrong one on. Then the Light one is further away from the stairs and the Lager is straight off the gas cylinder. There's no way of getting them mixed up."

As a learner Peter was drenched from time to time in beer from the kegs. "The pressure in the kegs when you are putting that little valve in, sometimes, if you don't catch it just right and you're pressing it, you get a shot of beer right up in your face. You have to feel round until it's right in the slot and then you just press and turn."

When Margaret wanted a crate of brown ale, Peter went down the unprotected stairs into the cellar with the sure-footedness of long practice, ducking his head at the crucial moment to miss







*Changing the "Keg Heavy" barrel in the cellar*

the edge of the hatch. "I knew where the crate of brown was. The draymen always stack them in the same place for me."

Although he can work blind in the cellar, Peter is quite sure that his small amount of residual vision is essential to his all-round work in the General Havelock. "I am all right in places where I know exactly where I am, and if the light's all right. But if I get bright light in front of me, or, of course, in the dark, I am just the same as total again." In the bar Peter positions himself as much as possible so that the light is behind him. If he were totally blind, in the bar, glassware would be too great a hazard he says.

### **A Long Day**

Despite a reliable staff, to whom they both pay tribute, and the help of their daughter, Sonia, the Logans' working day is a long one. "We never go to bed the same day as we got up," says Margaret. At ten o'clock their day begins as they prepare for opening time.

"We're open until three, by the time you get washed up and swept up, prepared for the evening session, it's getting on for four o'clock. Of course we've got to start thinking about something to eat then. We open again at six until eleven in the summer, half-past ten in the winter." It is well past midnight when they get to bed. "You have your money to check up, your float for the next day has got to go into the till, your glasses have to be washed up, polished and put away. Quite a lot goes on that the customers don't see."

Yes, it means long hours agrees Peter. "But you've got company, you've got different conversations going on. There's always something happening. It's not like engineering where you're standing at a lathe all day—doing the same thing day in and day out. Every day is different."

### **Cosmopolitan Customers**

The General Havelock is not far from North Shields' Town Commissioners' Quay, where the Norwegian ferries come in. "We have Norwegian passengers and crew in here, the stewardesses come in here regular. They do their shopping, then come in here for an hour, spend £6 on brandy or vodka and walk out straight!" says Peter admiringly. "Maybe they'll have a little bit dance—the last couple of records—but they just say 'bye, the same as they walk in.'"

The Logans' customers are a cosmopolitan crowd but Norwegians, Germans, Scots, Irish and the native Shields fishermen all get on together. Language is not a problem, Peter explains. "We usually find that they've got one of them in their company who speaks fairly fluent English."

They make a lot of friends says Margaret. "And this type of people are long-lasting friends. They keep coming back. We've found this with the Norwegians, they keep coming back. We even get cards from them." Was recognising all these customers a problem? I asked. "Not really" said Peter. "I can recognise a lot of them by their voices. If they come in on my totally blind side and speak, or the light may be shining right in my eye and I can't see them but as soon as I hear the voice, I know who they are."



And how about the sighted reactions to a blind "gaffer"?

"Some of the fishermen might be away two or three months but as soon as they come in the bar, if I'm behind the bar or sitting up this side, 'All right, Peter, how's it going?' even though I've not seen him for months."

Their first House, The Queen's Arms, in Sunderland gave them a very hard time. Situated in a poor area, it was to use Margaret's term, "Just a funny pub, I can't tell you why it never got off the bottom." They explained the situation to Dryborough's, the Scottish brewery which owned the pub and later, the General Havelock came up. Margaret described it: "We came along, had a look at it and thought, goodness, what are we going to take on here? The brewery said they were going to renovate it and decorate it and we had a small proportion of the money. A little bit of paper, a little bit of paint, some new curtains. It's very cosy now."

Peter and Margaret are tenants, that is they rent the General Havelock from

Dryborough's and must buy their beer, wines and spirits from the brewery. However, their profits are their own and since taking over, their draught beer sales have doubled. "Spirit sales have snow-balled" says Margaret, "We have done very well, better than I thought we would have done."

### Young People

One of the reasons for the General Havelock's increasing popularity is the Logans' commonsense attitude towards young people. In a room off the bar they have a juke box but not a discotheque. The dim lights of a disco make it difficult to know who is there and this can lead to problems. As it is they have a good crowd of youngsters and no trouble explained Margaret.

"I've got a lot of old records put on the juke box," says Peter, "but the youngsters play those just the same as the hit parade. Ballads—Johnny Cash, Slim Whitman. You get a lot of customers my age coming in as well but the youngsters play the old records just as

*Negotiating the cellar stairs with a crate of bottled brown ale.*





much as them. They don't want this screaming pop all the time."

Spotting the customer who is under the permitted age is always a problem but the police station is not far away and Peter finds this helpful. "Every now and again they have a wander round all the pubs looking for under-age drinkers. They just walk in, see them, tell the managers or whoever it is, and then travel on like."

### Who was the general?

One problem the Logans have not solved yet is who was General Havelock? "We don't know whether he was Napoleonic Wars or Boer War or what," said Peter—and when customers ask? "If they speak with a Scotch accent I tell them he used to play for Celtic. If you mention this in the *Review* we'll probably be snowed under with calls from St. Dunstaners who served with him!"

The General Havelock is not the summit of the Logans' ambitions. Peter is a catering man. He learned cookery the hard way: "I used to cook for a family of four or five when I was nine years old. My father died and my mother and my elder sisters had to go out and work. So I had to cook the meal for them coming in. I used to have to go out and catch a rabbit so they could have

something for their dinner. Of course, this was in the war."

Back in Margaret's home town, Alnwick, in the North of Northumberland, is an hotel—a little bigger and more important than the General Havelock. "They have a big banqueting room up there," said Peter, "They do Naval dinners, Golf and Rugby."

"It's always been an hotel we'd like to have a hold of. Something to get our teeth into. We do like a challenge. This was a challenge. This was a bit derelict and off-putting when we first came. It is working out very nicely now." That was Margaret speaking for the team and although she says there is no chance of that hotel in Alnwick, their team-spirit will see them through—if not in Alnwick, then somewhere else in the North country, where they both belong.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

*Since going to press, Peter and Margaret have reported that their investigations into the naming of the "General Havelock", have borne fruit; apparently the gentleman fought in the Indian Mutiny, serving alongside Sir Colin Campbell—after whom a neighbouring pub is named.*

*Peter chats with some of his Geordie customers.*





# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 365*

## **The Garden of the Finzi-Continis**

by G. Bassani

*Read by Andrew Gemmill*

*Reading Time 9 hours*

This is an autobiographical novel in which the narrator tells of his life in a Jewish community in a small town in Northern Italy.

It is a secure comfortable life, enriched by his association with the wealthy and influential Finzi-Contini family, and in particular his close friendship with the son and daughter.

This starts in childhood and continues and strengthens through adolescence, university and beyond. It is an idyllic existence of books and music, endless discussions about life, tennis parties in the garden of the big house. Even Mussolini's race laws of 1938 seem little more than a minor irritation.

But not for long . . . The book is written in retrospect. The narrator has survived the German slave-camp, but the Finzi-Continis did not. They have paid the price for being Jews.

This is a sensitive-written book about life in a Jewish community, a life full of warmth and kindness and wisdom, but doomed to end in disintegration and death.

*Cat. No. 1253*

## **An Area of Darkness**

by V. S. Naipaul

*Read by Alvar Lidell*

*Reading Time 12½ hours*

The author is a Trinidadian of Indian parentage, and this is the account of his first visit to the country of his origins. An established writer and teacher, he spent a year travelling—and sharply observing—in the sub-continent.

The result is no cosy nostalgic travel-book. His view of India is mercilessly objective and totally unsentimental. There is no conflict of ethnic loyalties, no ambivalence regarding his 'Indian-ness'.

He is a self-confessed 'colonial, without a past, without ancestors'. The only emotions India arouses in him are disgust, anger and sadness. He sees, not the India of the guide-books, but a country of decayed pragmatism, filth and unimagined squalor, the brutal degradation of the caste system, the 'quivering poverty' of its people, a place of stagnant futility and pain.

I don't suppose that this book would go down too well with the Indian Tourist Board, but as one man's view of Mother India, fiercely and uncompromisingly proclaimed, it certainly makes fascinating reading.

*Cat. No. 1718*

## **Cancer Ward**

by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Translated by Nicholas Bethnell and David Burg

*Read by Garard Green*

*Reading Time 27¼ hours*

The hospital is in Asiatic Russia and the patients a polyglot collection of Russians, Tartars, Uzbeks, Khazaks. Many will die, treatment has been delayed for too long.

They come from widely differing backgrounds. Russanov is a self-important petty official and a KGB informer, the ebullient Chali a 'wide boy' and a black marketeer. The bear-like Kostoglotov, morose and suspicious, has been granted special permission to leave the wilderness to which he has been exiled 'in perpetuity' for a student indiscretion.

The hospital is old and grossly overcrowded, there are many serious shortages. The dedicated women doctors work dangerously long hours exposed to massive doses of lethal radiation.

The ward is in effect a microcosm of the USSR, with its sufferings, its suspicions, its injustices.

With its brilliant low-key treatment, this is an eminently readable book and, happily, no one should have any difficulty with these Russian names. The characters are all very easily identified.



# International Conference On The Situation Of Blind Women

St. Dunstaner *Barbara Bell*, a physiotherapist, represented us at this conference, held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, from 18th to 20th November 1975, as part of International Women's Year, with Superintendent Physiotherapist Joan Clark as her escort.

Over 170 delegates attended, representing more than 60 countries, and the sessions were held in the Engineers' and Technicians' Centre. A Brazilian delegate, who was Chairman of the Programme Committee, took the Chair at the opening of the conference, and further chairmen were elected for each session.

The leader of the British delegation was Lady Jean Wilson, of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. Barbara writes to tell us that the travel arrangements went very smoothly, and that their hotel was pleasant, although, not unexpectedly, the language presented some difficulties! They had free time for visiting local places of interest, and on one occasion were entertained by wives of British and Australian Embassy staff. The three major social events were a Reception on the first evening; a musical concert; and a Dinner.

## Various Countries

The Conference "certainly opened our eyes, if you see what I mean, to the tremendous difference between the provision for blind welfare, especially with regard to women, of course, in our 'developed' societies and that of the less advanced countries".

The papers presented during the conference outlined the conditions in the various countries, and underlined the differences in attitudes towards and aims in rehabilitating the blind; this exchange continued during the open discussions.

A German delegate who had represented the World Council for the Blind at the International Women's Year conference in Berlin said that double discrimination seemed to exist, firstly because one was a woman, secondly because one was blind.

In Russia, they were told, kindergartens and nurseries were provided so blind

women could have their children looked after while they went out to work.

In Sweden, with the aim of giving full independence and self confidence, the figures for 1974 were 175 rehabilitation day-centres, provided by the Ministries of Education and Labour, with 65.5% men and 34.5% women attending. Of the 510 registered blind in the country, 48% were men and 51.5% were women.

Poland also has day-centres, and attention is given to guidance in the preparation of food and home rehabilitation. Short courses are also given in makeup and space orientation. Financial aid is provided for home aids; for the provision of refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and the adaptation of equipment.

In the United Kingdom, said our delegate Joan Williams, we felt it important that real rehabilitation should be given, and real skills taught, because we felt it better for patients to return to their own occupations if they were blinded later in life, or to some closely related work. If this was not possible, then new channels should be opened. More domiciliary training should be given.

A Norwegian delegate thought it better for a blind person to teach the blind, because she would be able to teach from touch, and she should also have the skills of a social worker, and be able to give confidence in the handling of mobility and orientation aids.

A sighted delegate from Yugoslavia spoke about schemes there for sport and recreation and socialisation for the blind.

Other papers and contributions came from Ghana and from the USA.

They learned that the conditions in Jordan needed much improvement. An opera-singer delegate from Teheran, who had been blind for about six years, said her country had a fine official organisation, as well as two or three private Christian societies.

## Future Policies

There was some discussion about the policies which should be adopted when delegates returned to their own countries, and it was felt that each country should



decide and concentrate on its most pressing needs. The improvement of working opportunities, and overcoming of discrimination seemed vital.

Lady Wilson chaired the final session. The resolutions were passed unanimously, and will be transmitted to the United Nations via the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind. "Recognising that there are more than 16 million totally blind people in the world, that an even larger number are visually handicapped and that at least half of them are women and girls", reads the introductory paragraph, "this Conference requests all appropriate specialised agencies of the UN in considering and implementing programmes for the advancement of women, to make adequate provision for the particular needs of the blind and visually handicapped". This is the main theme of the resolutions, which conclude by exhorting "blind and visually handicapped women to participate actively in the attainment of these objectives".

Barbara's final comment seems appropriate: "I think we felt that the whole thing was very worth while and might produce some concrete results"; we join her and her colleagues in these hopes, and send them our congratulations and thanks.

### THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST

For those living in, or on holiday in Wales, the "Guided Walks" and "Accompanied Walks" along the Pembrokeshire coast would seem an interesting and informative occupation. The 1976 programme is available from the

Information Officer  
Pembrokeshire Coast  
National Park Information Service  
County Office  
Haverfordwest  
Dyfed  
Telephone: Haverfordwest 3131

There are eight National Park Information Centres, and the guided walks, as well as including information on flora and fauna, vary in their interest; some study ornithology, some archeology; marine biology; history; forestry; ecology; marine biology, etc. They are organised from March until the end of September. We wish you happy walking!

## BASRAB

In November 1975 I attended, as St. Dunstan's representative, a meeting of the Steering Committee of the British Association of Sport and Recreational Activities for the Blind.

The aims of the Association will be:

- (a) to represent the widest range of sporting and recreational activities for visually handicapped persons of all ages;
- (b) to ensure that the needs of the visually handicapped are borne in mind when programmes of such activities are arranged within the community;
- (c) to encourage visually handicapped persons to participate in such activities and wherever possible integrate into clubs for the fully able;
- (d) to promote, foster, and generally support sporting and recreational activities;
- (e) to organise or assist in the organisation of local, national and international activities and competitions;
- (f) to initiate and stimulate the growth and development of sporting and recreational activities and ensure that instruction is available in the widest range of activities;
- (g) to act in an advisory capacity to appropriate authorities, organisations and clubs, to ensure that they have the necessary knowledge and information for the provision of amenities and instruction for the visually handicapped;
- (h) to offer an advisory service to the visually handicapped in all sporting and recreational activities and provide a source of ideas, knowledge and information;
- (i) to establish a Central Register of information related to Sports and Recreation.

I would add that these have always been the objectives of sport and recreation at St. Dunstan's, and there is no doubt that the long experience of our sportsmen is going to be invaluable to the promotion of this new association, which in my opinion will be of tremendous value to all visually handicapped sportsmen. I shall keep you posted as to its progress.

J. CARNOCHAN



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Yes, thank you, we had a very happy Christmas; so far the New Year is pretty good too! How about you?

Although you will be reading these words at the beginning of February, they are being written on New Year's Day. An hour ago the Escort Office was knee-deep in burst balloons, paper-hats and streamers, but now the only reminders of festivity are the wet towels, and the occasional St. Dunstaner plaintively asking: "WHAT time did you say the coach leaves for the Pantomime?"

To start at the beginning of December, we were visited by the Sussex Theatre Group, who gave us a varied and entertaining programme, both of group singing and individual items. They were most ably conducted by our friend and colleague, Henry Kerr, whom many of you will know. Our thanks for an enjoyable evening were expressed by George Stanley.

The Theatre Royal offered two somewhat forgettable plays, followed by a season of "Godspell". Now that the Dome Variety is produced only once each month, it seems to have improved in quality, and is the source of more enjoyment. During the second half of the programme on December 16th, the audience was invited to join in, and to sing carols. This was recorded by the B.B.C. and broadcast on Christmas Eve.

## Many Friends

We have been blessed with the friendship, goodwill, and practical assistance of many kind people throughout the year, and at no time are our friends more active than during the Christmas season. We are indebted to them for much enjoyment—to name but a few, the Not Forgotten Association invited three St. Dunstaners and their escorts to a Christmas Party in the Royal Mews. The staff and pupils entertained our party to tea before escorting them to the beautiful Chapel for the Carol Service at Roedean. The owners of two delightful houses invited large parties from St. Dunstan's to partake of lavish Christmas teas. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks of Smugglers' Farm, and Mr. and Mrs. Lyndhurst of Tylden House,

were gracious and generous hosts—indeed Mr. and Mrs. Brooks insisted on giving a Christmas Cake for St. Dunstan's, and this was used in the buffet, following the Whist Drive and Domino Tournament.

The Sunday of Christmas week saw our old friends "The Arena" entertaining us with their anthology, "Christmas Then and Now". They are a very talented threesome, comprising Mrs. Ann Goodman, Mr. Eddie Barton and Mr. John Henson, who write much of their own material, in addition to performing so well. The following evening we held the Grand Prize Bingo in the Las Vegas Golden Slipper Room (Oh, all right, then . . . the Lounge!). Amidst a reverent hush (for Bingo is a pastime for the dedicated), Matron pulled out the numbers, Miss Allison called, and your Entertainments Officer acted as Cashier, after which she suffered a short nervous breakdown! The following afternoon the coach (not Cinderella's Golden, but Plain Old Diesel) took a large party to the Pantomime at Eastbourne, and that evening Mr. Michael Hayes presented "Music in the Christmas Mood" on records. Another old friend, Mr. Les Harris, came on the afternoon of Christmas Eve to play his "Christmas Choice", and we thank them both most sincerely for the pleasure they gave us, particularly as there must have been much time and effort spent on their part at a very busy time, and both are dependant on public transport . . . not easy with some twenty records to carry!

## Sugar and Spice

Christmas Eve saw the Lounge filled to capacity for "Sugar and Spice" the concert given mainly by the Staff. Having that afternoon held the one and only rehearsal at which all those taking part could be present—but without our pianist—our spirits at 7.45 p.m. were understandably low. However, we bravely donned our cloaks over our uniforms, lit our lamps, and feeling like Nurse Cavell facing her persecutors, launched into our processional carol, "Oh, Come all ye Faithful". The lights dimmed as we began our walk from the rear of the Dining Room, and as we sang those well-known words,



we took fresh heart. Rather to our surprise, we arrived on stage at the right moment, everyone joined in the last few lines, and we felt warmth and goodwill coming toward us from all directions. We could not fail to respond, and what our show lacked in professionalism, it made up for in enthusiasm. Although there were a few solo and duet items, it was mainly a team effort, but mention must be made of our splendid Accompanist, Mrs. Keogh. She was indeed our mentor, encourager-in-chief, and friend, and we owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude. She brought along one of her pupils, Jane Spooner, who played the clarinet with both musicianship and feeling. Her performance delighted her audience, and we hope very much that both she and Mrs. Keogh will be able to visit us again. During the interval Commandant and Matron prepared hot-dogs with great speed, efficiency, and good humour, and these, together with mince-pies and sherry, were served to the audience by the cast. We may not be good, but By Golly, we're versatile! Before and after the interval Tom Eales entertained the audience with some delightful taped music in the Christmas mood, and then the cast, having changed into evening dress, took the stage again. The second half passed very quickly and it seemed no time at all to us (although it may have seemed centuries to our listeners!) before we began the final item—"Bless This House". Harry Meleson made a graceful speech of thanks to those taking part, to which we may perhaps add a word of appreciation to our friend, Mr. Bob Field. His official designation is "Maintenance", but without Bob, his resource, goodwill and endless hard work, we should be, as they say—"up the creek without a paddle". Thank you, Bob.

### Christmas Day

Christmas Day was dismal weatherwise, but what did that matter? The Chapel was filled, and it gave us great pleasure to see a large party from Pearson House. But we much regretted the absence, owing to the demands of their duties, of Matron Hallett and Miss Feaver. Christmas Readings were beautifully given by Miss Smith, Miss Houlton and Mrs. Dantine and—an especial joy—by Blodwyn Simon and

Thelma Meredith, our Resident Lady St. Dunstaners. It was a lovely Service, we felt we were a family, rejoicing together on Christmas morning. The whole Day was a happy one, and then (wouldn't you know it) disaster struck. At 7.30 p.m. Commandant and Matron were to star in a comedy, entitled "Every other Evening", and the title nearly proved all too apt. At 5.30 p.m. we received a telephone call, informing us that our guest-reader was unable to come. After replacing the receiver gently, but with despair in her heart, your Entertainment Officer said to herself: "Now don't panic," and immediately felt sick. But Sir Galahad was at hand in the person of Steve Lee, one of our Student Orderlies, and he read the part splendidly, picking up his cues like a veteran. Commandant was, as always, splendid in the part of a man being cleverly manoeuvred and manipulated by the women in his life—his wife, his daughter, his mistress. (Did I mention that it was adapted from the French?) Matron acted the part of the wife with wit, charm and natural humour; Lyndon Mason, as her . . . 'er, well, gentleman friend . . . was a joy to hear; Miss Smith, Mrs. Lamb, Steve Lee, and the aforesaid Entertainment Officer, enjoyed themselves hugely. We hope our audience did too.

After a visit to "Godspell" on Boxing Day afternoon, preparations, with much smothered laughter, were made for the Fancy Dress Dance. The Parade caused enormous fun, and our three Judges, Ann Goodman, Eddie Barton, and John Henson, of the "Arena", had a most daunting task. In the end they chose the following winners:

Elsie Aldred	—	Peas in a Pod
Brenda Bates	—	Night
Vi Delaney	—	Ghost of Ovingdean
Eddie Allchin	—	Botticelli's Cherub
Wally Andison	—	Popeye
George Stanley	—	Eliza Doolittle

Two group prizes were also given . . . one to the "Ladies' Bowling Team" (Blodwyn Simon, Thelma Meredith, and Mickey Robinson) and "More than One Loch Ness Monster" (Mrs. Hall, V.A.D., Bob Davis and a very tatty pram overflowing with babies. As the very pregnant (pretend!) Mrs. Hall said: "If the Judges don't hurry up, there'll be another in the pram!")



The following evening (we never give up), saw the Whist Drive and Domino Tournament, the winners of which were:

### Whist

#### Ladies

1st	<b>Mrs. Maynard</b>	<b>87</b>
2nd	Mrs. Dodgson	84
	Mrs. Wilson	84

#### Men

1st	<b>H. Meleson</b>	<b>88</b>
2nd	Miss Blodwyn Simon	87
3rd	Victor Goodwin	83

### Dominoes

1st	<b>Eric Humphreys</b>	8 games
2nd	Edward Porter	6 games
3rd	Robert Dewhurst	5 games

Our congratulations to all of them.

Sunday, we optimistically forecast, would be a quiet day. Well, if you consider a lounge full of children, grandchildren, second-cousins-once removed, and Uncle Fred from Birmingham, spells quiet, it was quiet . . . but nice. In the evening, one of our most popular entertainers, Mr. Peter Larsen, again brought his electronic organ, and cheerfully played every "request", with which he was bombarded. Harry King spoke for all when he said, "Come again soon".

On Monday we were all set to be entertained by St. Dunstaners. At 8 p.m. we despaired of ever getting anyone started, and then, lo! it all began to happen, and everyone wanted to get in on the act. It would be impossible to mention all those who performed, but perhaps we may just say that it was lovely to hear our lady St. Dunstaners singing "Away in a Manger" and "Once in Royal David's City".

The year ended with a visit to the Dome Pantomime, and a New Year's Eve Party and Dance. Inhibitions were shed in all directions, and we much enjoyed watching Mrs. Dacre win her heat of the Balloon-between-the-Knees Race . . .

It was a great pleasure to have our Chairman and his charming wife with us. We thank them most sincerely for coming and for bringing good wishes from Lady Fraser.

And so, as the travelogues used to say, we say farewell from this oasis of gracious living, with V.A.D.s sinking in the West, the East, in every direction . . .

## KEMP TOWN NOTES

We at Pearson House began to think about Christmas early in December when we joined friends from Ian Fraser House to attend the annual Carol Service at Roedean School.

Later in the month we welcomed Miss Farmer, a music teacher from Hove, who came to play the piano and sing for us. Her selection of carols was very much enjoyed, especially when she invited audience participation.

On Saturday the 20th, Padre Popham Hosford brought his choir from St. George's Church to sing carols to the men in the wards and Winter Garden.

By this time we were really into our stride and Christmas "happenings" followed fast and furious.

The next evening we were happy to greet Wally Muspratt and his Concert Party. We always have a good evening's entertainment from this group and we like to think that they enjoy themselves as much with us as we do with them.

Two days later we were delighted by the efforts of young members of the Salvation Army Band. We have to hide a smile when these diminutive musicians arrive, bearing instruments larger than themselves. However, what they lack in size they certainly make up for in enthusiasm—how they can blow!—with quality as well as quantity we hasten to add.

On Christmas Eve we heard an anthology of words and music entitled (surprise, surprise) " 'Twas The Night Before Christmas" The programme was compiled, produced and presented on tape by Mr. and Mrs. E. Dennis.

Christmas Day dawned and off we went to Chapel at Ian Fraser House. After the Service of carols and Bible readings we returned to Pearson House for coffee and the distribution of Christmas gifts by Matron and Commandant. Then it was time for a drink and in to dinner. It was a magnificent meal accompanied by much merriment as crackers were pulled and their contents examined and exclaimed over. Afterwards Christmas messages from friends old and



new were read by Matron and Miss Feaver.

We spent a lazy afternoon sleeping off the Christmas "pud" and then gathered in the Winter Garden for a play reading. three humorous one-act plays were read by Matron, Miss Feaver, Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Dantine and Bob Doyle (who operates our Lift when he is not playing leading man) and Mr. E. Dennis. The plays were amusing and met with an enthusiastic reception.

The next evening we had another treat in the shape of a Stereo Concert by St. Dunstaner Bill Jack. Bill owns some really wonderful equipment and his programme was varied and entertaining. We marvelled at his skill with all those controls. Among the musical items were spoken items by members of staff, which Bill had previously recorded. We congratulated Bill on a very successful evening and hope we may have more of the same at some future date.

Trips to the Pantomime with our friends from Ian Fraser House, dominoes, bingo and records on our super new stereo record player brought us happily up to New Year's Eve. We began the evening with prize Bingo and continued with refreshments, competitions and story telling. By this time our numbers had dwindled somewhat! However, a few stalwart souls stayed awake. Again we sang carols assisted by our two night orderlies—Alan who played the piano and Gordon who led the singing. At last the chimes of Big Ben ushered in the New Year and we drank each other's health and happiness for 1976 in a glass or two of excellent punch.

On New Year's Day another excellent dinner and the very welcome visit of the Chairman and Mrs. Garnett-Orme brought our festivities to a most satisfactory conclusion. We hope that all our readers enjoyed the holiday and will have a very happy and successful year.

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## A MAYDAY SIGNAL

Bill Shea writes that on the evening of Friday November 28th 1975, whilst operating on the 80 Metre amateur band on a frequency of 3973 Kcs. with a group of European "hams" talking to a group of Middle East likewise, a Mayday call was heard on the frequency at 22.30 hrs. so the frequency was cleared for emergency traffic only. DA 1EK, Rick of the U.S. Army in Ansbach, West Germany, made the first contact with the station putting out the distress call. The station was W2/ACS/P/MM/R1 operated by "Tom" on the yacht *Scorpion* which was of fibreglass construction and had lost a mast which had damaged her hull and she was taking in water. She was 44 feet long and had a beam of 11 feet 6 inches. Tom was making the call on the amateur band because she had lost her maritime radio and was therefore unable to use the standard distress frequencies. There were five people on board including Tom's wife; he gave their position as 33.52 deg. North, 31.23 deg. East. Rick, who adopted the role of Control Station for the rest of the night, notified the U.S. authorities in Germany, who alerted the U.S. air rescue units in the Mediterranean

area. The Ministry of Defence were notified in London, and they in turn alerted the R.A.F. in Cyprus. 4Z 4FW broke in to say the Israeli air/sea rescue service had also been alerted. Tom, who was using batteries to power his radio, reported that these were in danger of being flooded and would have to be got to a higher level after a short time. He said he had managed to get his equipment on to a table in the galley. The time was now 23.15 hours, and U.S. Rescue Service were asking for the details of the emergency gear the yacht was carrying, also a report on the weather conditions. Tom supplied the details which were—The *Scorpion* had an inflatable life raft which was equipped with emergency radio beacon and good supply of red flares. The cloud base was very low, the waves were running at about five feet with the wind from the North East. A little later Tom reported that the life raft was being prepared for launching and that the water was getting dangerously near his batteries. He once again moved his equipment, this time up on deck covering it with plastic sheeting, trying to keep it as dry as possible. At 23.57 hrs. Tom said the



life raft was ready for launching, packed with emergency stores. All the party were wearing their inflatable life jackets. At 00.08 hrs., Tom left the radio to help launch the raft, at 00.16 hrs. he returned to say the raft was launched, the rest of the party were in it and he was attached to it by lifeline. There was a portable radio receiver in the raft with which they were able to listen on the present frequency. SM5 BLA, a Swedish "ham" who was a helicopter pilot, broke in to advise them to tune the portable receiver to 121.5 M/cs. which is an emergency band, and they would be able to receive instructions from searching aircraft. At 01.35 hrs. it was necessary because of interference to change frequency to 3796 K/cs. It was getting more and more difficult for stations in England and Germany to copy Tom's signal, but JY 3ZH in Jordan and a Danish station were still hearing him. The last signal this station G4 AUJ heard was when Tom said they had heard a jet plane overhead; they had let some flares go but there had been no response. It was thought this was probably a plane on regular schedule.

Tom also said that the deck was now only six inches above water and the waves were breaking over, which could have put out of action his batteries as nothing further was heard from him. Perhaps he had decided to join the others in the life raft.

At 03.00 hrs. it was reported from the M. of D. London that the helicopter from Cyprus had returned to base having reached the limit of its search. Nothing had been sighted. No news was heard of the launch sent from Cyprus, nor from the U.S. helicopter which had gone out from Rhodes. Shortly after this a signal from Germany said that a Hercules aircraft specially equipped with search and rescue gear had left Sicily and would be in the area about 04.15 hrs. Nothing further was heard and I closed this station down at 03.35. At this point the only casualty was the yacht's cat washed overboard.

A great deal of credit must go to Rick DA 1EK for the way he acted as controller during the operation. This is my first experience of a Mayday call on the amateur bands, and I was so glad I could help in a small way.

*Nov. 29th, Saturday:—B.B.C. One O'clock News:* It was reported that a Sea and Air search was being carried out in the Eastern Med., the vessel involved was the yacht *Scorpion*. The search was mounted after a Mayday call being reported by amateurs in England and Germany.

The final outcome of this is not yet known. The U.S. authorities in Germany say that the U.S., British and Israeli rescue services flew 180 hours; nothing was sighted of the *Scorpion* or her life raft, and an official enquiry has begun.

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Craddock* of Warrington, Lancs., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Denise, with Lionel Ousdine on 22nd December in Cape Town, South Africa.

*Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Farnen*, of Manchester, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Elizabeth to Philip Williams at Manchester, on 6th December.

*Mr. and Mrs. Fred Galway*, of Sandbach, Cheshire, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Andrew to Miss

Ann Williams, on 8th December 1975 at St. Mary's Church, Sandbach.

Mrs. Janie Kempe, of Camborne, Cornwall, widow of St. Dunstaner *Samuel Kempe*, is pleased to announce that her son Anthony married Miss P. Trapp of Helston, Cornwall, on 15th July 1975, and that her son Robert married Miss R. Dunstan of Troon, Ayrshire, on 25th October 1975.

### Silver Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Dennis John Freeman* of Coventry, Warwickshire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding anniversary on 23rd December 1975.



## Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Paul Walker*, of Lewes, Sussex, whose first grandchild was born on 8th October last; a son Martin, the first child for their son Michael and their daughter-in-law.

## Great Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

*Henry Baker*, of Billericay, Essex, on the birth of his third great grandchild; a second son born to his grandson Leslie and wife Pat on 27th November 1975.

*John Fawcett* of Bournemouth, Dorset, whose grand-daughter and grandson-in-law, Delia and Ryan Hoffman, of Capetown, South Africa, had a daughter Zoe on 28th November. Delia is the daughter of his younger son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. David Fawcett.

*Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Moseley* of Blackpool, Lancs., whose first great grandchild, Clive, was born to their grand-daughter Anne and her husband John, of Kids Grove, Worcs., on 20th December 1975.

## H.N.C.

We congratulate Michael Walker, son of *St. Dunstan Paul Walker*, of Lewes, Sussex, on gaining the Higher National Certificate in Draughtsmanship.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*William Henry Burnett*, of Maidstone, Kent, whose mother died on 18th June 1975.

*Thomas Stanley Cooper*, of Bridlington, Yorkshire, whose wife Mildred died on 16th December 1975.

*Sidney Gobourn*, of Cheltenham, Glos., whose wife Kathleen died on 4th January 1976.

*Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Heys*, of Peacehaven, Sussex, on the death of Mrs. Heys' mother on 3rd December, aged 83.

*Victor Thomas Powell* of Solihull, Warwickshire, whose mother died on 29th November 1975.

*Ernest Sayers*, of Birchington, Kent, whose wife Florence Elizabeth died on 21st December.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following **St. Dunstaners** and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

### **Arthur Allaway.** *Labour Corps.*

Arthur Allaway, of Leicester, died on 17th December 1975 at Pearson House. He was aged 85.

He lost his sight while serving in France with the Labour Corps in 1918, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1961, by which time he was retired. In 1969 he and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Allaway, and son Dennis.

### **Louis Androlia.** *Canadian Tank Regiment.*

Louis Androlia, of Great Barr, Birmingham, died on 27th December 1975 at the age of 57.

He was American by birth, but enlisted in the Canadian Tank Regiment in 1941. He was wounded in 1945 and came to St. Dunstan's six months later, making his home in the Midlands. In January 1949 he returned to

America, then went to Canada, where his third son was born; he returned to England in 1953. Because of the injuries received when he was wounded he was unable to follow an occupation, but he had many interests. He last visited Canada in 1972 when, accompanied by his wife, he was Guest of Honour at celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of his Regiment. He also took the opportunity to visit relatives in the U.S.A.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Catherine Androlia, and four sons.

### **Richard William Cumberland.** *Royal Artillery (L.A.A.)*

Richard William Cumberland, a resident of Pearson House, died there on 14th December 1975 at the age of 70.

He served in the R.A. (L.A.A.) from 1939 until 1942, and was injured by a bomb blast at Tangmere in 1940. He had been a cameraman, and for a time had lived in South Africa. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1961, and learned Braille and typewriting. Until prevented by ill health in 1974, he was a journalist, and author of several books.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Coralie Cumberland, a son and daughter.



**Joseph William Fowler. R.A.O.C.**

Joseph William Fowler of Saltdean, Sussex, died on 19th December 1975 at the age of 69. He enlisted in 1928, and was recalled at the outbreak of the Second World War. Following his war service he was a company director of a furniture manufacturing company, but had to retire in 1958 due to loss of sight. He joined St. Dunstan's a few years later. During his retirement he was keenly interested in his garden and greenhouse.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Fowler.

**Henry Frederick Goodley. 3rd Norfolk Regiment.**

Henry Frederick Goodley of Pulham Market, Diss, Norfolk, died on 9th December, 1975, at the age of 93. He served in the 3rd Norfolk Regiment, and after being wounded in France and coming to St. Dunstan's, he trained as a poultry keeper, and for twenty-five years kept quite a large poultry farm. When he retired in 1948 he turned his attention to his garden and greenhouse, and much of his produce he exhibited with considerable success in local shows. He will be much missed at the East Anglian Reunions.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jessie Goodley, two sons and a daughter, and a large family of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**William Hart. 7th Royal Sussex Regiment.**

William Hart, of Chichester, Sussex, died on 21st December 1975 at Pearson House, aged 89.

He joined St. Dunstan's in January, 1963. He was retired, and lived with his brother and sister-in-law. Following the death of his brother he continued to share the family house with his sister-in-law. He went to Pearson House as a resident at the beginning of 1975.

He leaves a sister-in-law, Mrs. Ethel Hart.

**Jacob James Hiscock. 17 Squadron No. 3 Remount Depot.**

Jacob James Hiscock, of Swindon, Wilts., died on 1st January 1976 at Pearson House, aged 75.

He was blinded in a mine explosion while serving in the 17 Squadron No. 3 Remount Depot during the 1st World War, and joined St. Dunstan's in 1919. Although South Wales was his birthplace, he settled in Swindon. He was a keen poultry keeper, and for some time was also a mat-maker for the Stores.

He was a bachelor, and leaves a niece, Mrs. Priscilla Rautman, and two great nieces.

**Dennis John Jones. Royal Army Service Corps.**

Dennis John Jones, of Sutton, Surrey, died on 24th December 1975 aged 55.

From 1940 until 1946 he served in the R.A.S.C., and prior to enlistment was a Clerical Officer in the Civil Service. On 26th November 1975 he was admitted to St. Dunstan's, and on the same day was involved in an accident. He died in hospital without regaining consciousness.

He leaves his mother, Mrs. G. C. V. Jones, and other members of their family.

**William Macpherson. Intelligence Corps.**

William Macpherson of Chiswick, London W.4, died in hospital at the age of 52.

He served as a Private in the Intelligence Corps during the Second World War, and joined St. Dunstan's in 1945. He was a bachelor, widely travelled, and a keen and valued member of the Comedy Club of London, and amateur dramatic society. He was in the antiques business for some time with his mother, but this was discontinued with her illness and death. His love of antiques continued throughout his life, and he had a private collection.

**James Miller. 7th Medical Regiment R.A.**

James Miller, of Rutherglen, Glasgow, died on 3rd December 1975 in hospital, at the age of 69. He lost his sight while serving in action with the Royal Artillery in Germany in 1945. At St. Dunstan's he was trained for industrial work, in which he completed twenty-one years' service when he retired in 1971. He was a keen gardener, and occupied his retirement with this and his greenhouse.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Sarah Miller, four sons and two daughters and their families.

**Edward Tuck. 5th South Wales Borderers**

Edward Tuck, of Tondy, Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, died on 3rd January at the age of 86.

He was wounded in 1917 at Vimy Ridge, but worked as a stoker on the Bridgend Estate and came to St. Dunstan's in 1973, after he had retired.

**Samuel Webster 5th King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry**

"Sammy" Webster, of Saltdean, Sussex, died on 8th January at the age of 78. Before the First World War he was an electric cable worker.

He served in the 5th King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry, and joined St. Dunstan's after being injured at Warnecourt in 1917. He trained as a telephonist, and worked in that capacity for a Religious Society until his retirement in 1963.

He was a Bridge enthusiast, and a valued member of the Brighton Sports and Social Club, as well as of the London Club.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Hilda May Webster, and other members of his family.







## Message from the Chairman

### MEMORIAL TO LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE

Recently, all St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom received a letter from me, outlining plans for the erection of a memorial tablet in the Cloisters of Westminster Abbey. Many St. Dunstaners had expressed a wish to contribute to a memorial to Lord Fraser and I suggested that contributions should not exceed £2.00. Our proposals seem to have met with general approval.

If any other readers would like to join in, perhaps they will send their contributions to Mr. C. D. Wills at St. Dunstan's Headquarters. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's.

For those who have not had details, the following is a general description of the design of the tablet.

On the advice of the Abbey experts, we have chosen a stone quarried at Coniston in Lord Fraser's old Parliamentary Constituency. Lord Fraser's Crest and Coat of Arms will appear on the top edge of the tablet.

His profile will be cast in bronze and the inscription which follows will be repeated in Braille on a bronze plate, to be set at the bottom of the tablet at an angle which makes for easy reading by blind persons. The same plate will include St. Dunstan's badge in relief.

Lord Fraser's life's work had many facets and he carried many distinctions. It is impossible to find room to list them. We have therefore given a great deal of thought to writing an inscription which covers his life *in the broadest terms*—his world-wide work for the blind, his active interest in ex-Service men and women, and his long service in Parliament.

Preliminary sketches are now being prepared by the sculptor who we hope will do the work. When these have been approved by us they must be submitted to the Dean and Chapter for their consideration and approval, as the final decision rests with the Abbey authorities. The work will, of course, take some months to complete.

Jon Barnett-Dune

Chairman

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COVER PICTURE: Tommy Milligan and Mary Howell, V.A.D., lead the dance at St. Dunstan's Regent's Park, in 1915. See "As I remember" on centre pages.





*The Cader Idris Expedition in 1975.*

### **CADER IDRIS CLIMB**

For the third year in succession, Mr. R. O. L. Thomas, a Member of St. Dunstan's, has very kindly offered to organise a mountain climb by a party of 5 or 6 St. Dunstaners. As in 1974 and 1975 the selected mountain is Cader Idris.

Accommodation for St. Dunstaners and wives will be arranged by Mr. Thomas, and escorts will be provided for the climb. Expenses will be covered by St. Dunstan's.

The weekend proposed for the climb is Friday 11th to Monday 14th June, and interested St. Dunstaners should write to the *Review*. Applicants should be physically fit; strong boots or shoes fitted with studs or cleats are advisable.

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### **ST. DUNSTAN'S CAMP H.M.S. DAEDALUS**

The Royal Navy have very generously invited once again a party of St. Dunstaners to spend a week at H.M.S. Daedalus, Lee on Solent. The dates of the camp this year will be from Friday, 13th August, 1976 until the morning of

Saturday, 21st August, 1976. The camp fee will be £7 and railway fares over £3 will be refunded.

Will all those wishing to be considered for a place at camp please contact: Miss Elspeth Grant, Flat 1, 7 Craven Hill, London W.2. Telephone (after 6 p.m.) 01-262 2723 by 25th May.

Campers will be pleased to know that Jandy and Michael Spurway, Mrs. Avis Spurway's daughter-in-law and son, had a daughter on 28th January, called Melita Lucy Odine.

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### **ROYAL TOURNAMENT AND TROOPING THE COLOUR**

It is anticipated that we may be allocated tickets again this year for the Private View of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court on the afternoon of Wednesday, 14th July and also for the Trooping the Colour Ceremony on Saturday, 12th June in the morning.

Any St. Dunstaners who would like to apply for tickets should contact Miss Bridger by Monday, 12th April, 1976, please.

*C. D. WILLS*



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1911*

## **Famous Trials**

Edited by Harry Hodge

*Read by Franklin Engelman*

*Reading Time 13 hours*

The title is something of a misnomer, the emphasis in each case is not on the trial itself, but on the events leading up to the arrest, together with a wealth of background detail concerning the principal characters in the drama.

The eight cases constitute probably the best known of all the *causes celebres* of the last seventy years. These range from the trial of Madeleine Smith (verdict "Not Proven"), to that of Brown and Kennedy, hanged for the killing of a policeman.

Each account is by a different contemporary writer whose styles range from the downright pompous to the pleasantly archaic.

But the result makes fascinating reading since it deals with that most enthralling of subjects, unlawful violent death—and real-life murder at that.

*Cat. No. 1453*

## **Rosie is My Relative**

by Gerald Durrell

*Read by Anthony Parker*

*Reading Time 9½ hours*

Adrian Rookwhistle lives a dull, humdrum life as a clerk. In lodgings, he is constantly menaced by his landlady's atrocious cooking.

He receives a letter from a solicitor informing him that an almost-forgotten uncle has died and left him one "Rosie", together with £500 for her upkeep. The letter also implies that the lady has a *certain weakness*.

Rosie proves to be a fully grown elephant with a decided penchant for strong drink. Adrian decides that his only course is to give her (and the £500) to a circus on the coast, a week's walking distance.

At first all goes well, for Rosie is a docile and friendly beast. But her weakness for strong drink proves their undoing.

Adrian and his alcoholic pachyderm leave a trail of devastation and ruin behind them, including a hunt unceremoniously scattered in total disorder, one theatre partially demolished and one Stately Home rather the worse for wear.

Inevitably retribution overtakes them, and Adrian finds himself lodged in a prison cell . . .

This is a very funny book. The characters are as outrageous as their names—Mr. Pucklehammer, Peregrine Filigree, Ethelbert Cleek, to name but a few.

Like all good fairy tales it ends happily. Rosie gets a good home (not in a circus), and Adrian gets a good wife—who happens to be a splendid cook.

Did I say fairy tale? Mr. Durrell assures us it is based on fact! Incredible!

*Cat. No. 1338*

## **Madame Bovary**

by Gustave Flaubert

Translated by Gerard Hopkins

*Read by John Richmond*

*Reading Time 15½ hours*

Emma, young and vivacious and with a taste for change and excitement, soon finds life as the wife of a country doctor beginning to pall. M. Bovary is away for most of the day; at home he is dull, set in his ways, oafish.

Madame Bovary has not found in marriage that "elegant existence" for which she has long been searching. The dull monotony of small-town life oppresses her, she longs for freedom and life. She embarks on a series of amorous adventures.

To carry out her many deceits she has to have money. Soon she is hopelessly in debt. There is nothing left to pawn or sell or mortgage. Her unfortunate husband is blissfully ignorant of her calumny. Her lovers have tired of her. There is nothing left for her but death.

Flaubert's classic story of folly and passion loses nothing in this admirable translation and the reader is given a brilliant picture of French provincial life in the mid-nineteenth century.



Cat. No. 680

### The Guns of Navarone

by Alistair MacLean

Read by Peter Reynolds

Reading Time 12¾ hours

British forces are trapped on a tiny Greek island. They could be taken off by sea but the narrow approach channel is guarded by the great guns of Navarone. This island fortress is impregnable to conventional attack but the German guns must be silenced.

A "suicide mission" of five picked saboteurs sets off on this apparently hopeless task . . .

Naturally they succeed, but only after a series of the most hair-raising adventures. The "impregnable" fortress and its deadly arsenal blows up just as the rescue ships race up the channel.

This is one of those books where adjectives like "thrilling" and "exciting" and "action-packed" seem inadequate. The novel is a masterpiece of the story-teller's art and surely one of the best of its kind.

Cat. No. 1065

### Saturday at MI9

by Airey Neave

Read by David Broomfield

Reading Time 11½ hours

The author escaped from Colditz in 1942 and made his way by devious means back to the UK.

He was recruited by MI9 to organise the recovery and safe return of those airmen, shot down in occupied territory, who had managed to evade capture.

Thus were established the secret lines along which hundreds of air-crew members were brought to freedom. Most of them were able to fly again. Some were killed in action.

This is more than a real-life cloak-and-dagger tale of code names, hairbreadth escapes and double agents. It is a testament to hundreds of ordinary men and women, living under the German Terror, who constantly risked torture and death for the Allied cause.

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## Derby Sweepstake 1976

Applications are once again invited from St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's trainees for tickets in the *St. Dunstan's Review* Derby Sweepstake. The attention of everyone is drawn to the rule that **every application for tickets made in the British Isles must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

**Tickets are 20p** each, and applications for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, 19th May.** Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and **with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed,** must be sent to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and

crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

Tickets will be issued consecutively, and are limited to twenty-five.

The total money subscribed, less the cost of printing and expenses, will be distributed as follows:

50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

No prize won in the Sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold.

The Draw will take place in the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 27th May, the race being run on 2nd June.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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The Story so far:

December, you may recall, ended with New Year revels, much hilarity, and total exhaustion, at the approach of 1976. Now read on:

New Year's Day was spent quietly, but in the nicest way, for the Chairman and Mrs. Garnett-Orme, together with Dr. J. O'Hara, were our guests. Both Mr. Garnett-Orme and Dr. John expressed their hopes and good wishes for the future, which were much appreciated and heartily applauded. That evening saw our last foray of the festive season—to the pantomime, "Cinderella" at Worthing.

"Godspell" continued its third run at the Theatre Royal—it is fortunate that the management does not rely solely on us for its profits, as very few made bookings. However, there was plenty of entertainment in the house. We were visited by the Venturas Concert Party, the Maxi Five (a group of young musicians who played modern dance music) and the Nucleus Theatre Group, who presented the comedy "Breath of Spring". It concerned a group of people in late middle-age who were living in genteel poverty. Almost by accident, they became fur-thieves, and their mis-adventures provided much amusement. One of the parts was played by the wife of St. Dunstaner Johnnie Lee, and very good she was too. We also enjoyed another of Tom Eales' "Stereo Mixtures", which included fifty guitars playing "Michelle", Nana Mouskouri singing "Try to Remember", "Scarborough Fair" and a lovely old song, "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine". Oh, if only all "mixtures" were as palatable as this! Mickey Robinson thanked Tom for another entertaining and relaxing evening, and his words were endorsed by all of us. Other record programmes were given by V.A.D.s Mrs. Catt and Miss Twell, and these were much enjoyed.

On one Tuesday evening this month we invited two friends of many years' standing, Mr. Cyril Haslett and Mrs. Dolly Harmer, to entertain us with "Four Hands—One Piano". It was all very informal and turned out to be one of the happiest evenings we have had for

some time—everyone enjoyed the talented playing, and joined in the songs they knew. After the interval, members of the audience became really involved, and soloists readily obliged. We discovered several lights which had been hidden under bushels, particularly Fred Harriss who, at the age of 81, performed an amusing old song entitled "The Dear Little Girl" in the most delightful way. Nice one, Fred!

## Adventures in China

One Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Edward Lewis, who is widely travelled, came to talk to us about his adventures in China. He visited there in 1949 and had first-hand knowledge of both Communist and Nationalist leaders, though we bore in mind that visiting a country is vastly different from living in it. Enormous strides have obviously been made in the last twenty-odd years to help the underprivileged, but, it would seem, at the cost of personal freedom. Perhaps we could say that circumstances dictate one's priorities. In the chair was our good friend Mr. Stokes, and we thank him and Mr. Lewis for an interesting afternoon.

Our usual Drives took place (we're a hardy lot), Bingo, Dominoes, and the Monday-night Dances. On the last Tuesday of the month we much enjoyed a "family sing-song" around the piano, with V.A.D. Mrs. Wright cheerfully accompanying everything from "My Old Dutch" to "Roamin' in the Gloamin'". Wally Andison rendered "Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage" and strong men wept. But fear not, they were comforted by kindly V.A.D.s and hot coffee—a heady combination.

The month had its sadness—Joseph Pakalnis, who has been "Mother" to so many in Sick Bay, retired after 19 years on the staff. We wish him a happy retirement—his fractured English and kindly ways will be missed. We were all grieved when Matron's secretary for 15 years, Mrs. Joan Caddy, died after a bravely fought battle lasting for several months. She was, in every way, a lovely person.

Brighton itself has been quiet this



month, and the weather mixed. During the latter part, the Dome and Pavilion Theatre have been taken over by the Toy Fair, and as several cinemas have either closed or been converted into Bingo Halls, entertainment in the town has been at a premium. However, we have plenty of talent among our St. Dunstaners; for instance we have much enjoyed Bill Claydon's impromptu performances at the piano. His gentle style of playing is most soothing, and your Entertainments Officer was drawn to the Lounge one morning, when she should have been wrestling with the accounts. She began to sing "Moon River" into the ear of an elderly St. Dunstaner, under the impression that she was being really rather enticing, but as the last notes died away, without changing his dead-pan expression, he said: "Have you booked me on the Drive?" Ladies—have you ever felt that a career as a sex-kitten was just not for you? Back to the accounts...

Please join us next month for a further instalment of "Life at the Big House."

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## STAFF OBITUARY

### Mrs. Joan Caddy

St. Dunstaners and Staff will be sorry to hear of the death on Tuesday, 27th January, of Mrs. Joan Caddy (formerly Rokosz), who was Matron's secretary at Ovingdean and Pearson House since 1960.

Her efficiency as a secretary, and her unflinching good humour will be sadly missed.

A collection was made in both Houses, and at Headquarters, for flowers, and a sheaf of carnations was sent from everyone. It has been decided, with her husband's approval, to send the balance of the collection to Cancer Research, and this will amount to £35.

Joan Caddy was Secretary of the Brighton and Hove Operatic Society, having been a member for 20 years. She married the Society's Chairman, Mr. Leonard Caddy, last March. Mr. Tony Ramsey, a former Chairman, said: "She will be greatly missed, not only for her exceedingly efficient work but also for her most generous and sympathetic nature which was appreciated by everyone."

## CLUB NEWS

### BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

The Club activities are proceeding very well. We are getting a very good response to the Dominoes and Whist Aggregates, and to the Knockout Competitions, and we thank members for their support. It has been very cold and miserable, and due to lots of colds and sneezes it's certainly been an effort to leave a warm fire—still, you have all attended in large numbers and enthusiastically supported all meetings.

We must express our most genuine and sincere thanks to our Chairman, and his wife, of the entertainments committee, Bill and Monica Claydon, for their excellent work. Due to stress and ill health they have been forced to resign. Madam President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Committee and Members wish them to know that the very hard work entailed in starting a brand new club is fully appreciated, and we are most grateful to them. We extend our heartiest good wishes for their complete recovery, and hope to see them back with us soon. Thanks, Bill and Monica.

The death of our dear friend and fellow St. Dunstaner, Sam Webster, was a great shock to all of us and he will be sadly missed. We offer our deepest sympathy to his wife Hilda. All we can say is that though he is no longer with us, he will always be in the thoughts of his friends, so not forgotten.

May we take this opportunity of saying "Welcome to the Club" to our very dear friend Mr. Joe Kennedy, who has just become an Honorary Member of the Club. We look forward to seeing him more often, and there is no need to say how helpful he is, as always.

The Dance in January was, as usual, a great success. Though cold outside, the atmosphere inside was very warm and jolly, with extra for this in the attendance of our St. Dunstaner and member, Mr. Joe Langley and his new bride, Margaret, who were married that day. Many congratulations to the happy couple, and good wishes for the future from their friends at the club.

BILL PHILLIPS



## Bridge Section

### Saturday, 17th January

A pairs match was held in the Annexe of Ian Fraser House. The participants thought it was a great success, each St. Dunstaner playing with a sighted partner. We plan to make this a monthly event, and any St. Dunstaner who is a member of the Brighton Club is cordially invited to take part.

The winners were:

North-South

**A. Smith and Mrs. Smith      64**

East-West

**W. Scott and R. Goodlad      79**

### Saturday, 31st January

A team of eight St. Dunstaners faced the frost to meet their opponents in the warmth and comfort of Seaford Golf Club. This was our first away match of the year. The Seaford team won the day, not only at the bridge table but with the friendliness and the generous hospitality shown to us all.

### Saturday, 7th February

The second individual was held with the following results:

R. Fullard and W. Burnett      73

A. Dodgson and B. Simon      65

J. Padley and F. Griffiee      64

W. Scott and A. Smith      60

W. Lethbridge and W. Phillips      56

C. Walters and M. Clemments      55

R. Bickley and P. McCormack      52

We apologise to Miss Blodwyn Simon for printing her name as "J. Simmons" in the February *Review*!

**W. LETHBRIDGE**

## Bowls Section

The Bowling Club is now well established at Ian Fraser House; aggregate competitions are run weekly, and club membership has increased over the last few months.

During the indoor season the club is entertaining and playing some of the bowling clubs in the Brighton area. All members are looking forward to the outdoor season starting in May, with visits to our friendly clubs along the South Coast.

We take great pleasure in welcoming three new Bowlers to the Section, namely Dickie Brett, Bob Osborne and Bill Claydon, and after seeing them in action, I guess the old hands will have to look to their laurels (keep it up, lads).

December 12th was a real Red Letter Day for us, as we were able for the first time to invite our old friends from the Hove and Kingsway Bowling Club to Ian Fraser House for an Indoor Bowling Match. This turned out to be a closely contested match, which ended in a close win for us. The ladies, not to be outdone by the men, provided a wonderful tea for us all. (Thank you, ladies).

Another match was held in the Annexe on January 9th. This time it was against St. Ann's Wells Bowling Club, in which we were beaten very easily, but once again the ladies came to the rescue and provided a grand tea, which was appreciated by all. (Thank you, girls).

We are looking forward to the coming months, during which we hope to invite two or three clubs to the Annexe, before commencing a full summer fixture list when we look forward to meeting old and new friends.

**TED FREARSON**  
*Captain*

### Results of the Dominoes Aggregate, Round Three

Equal first

**Mrs. Mudge**

**Mrs. J. Osborne**

Equal third

Mrs. N. Bickley

R. Bickley

T. Frearson

H. Preedy

T. Mugan

W. Holmes

The second round for the Dominoes Fives and Threes Competition has now been posted on the notice board, and competitions are well under way.

## Fishing Section

On Friday 16th January members of the Club left Newhaven Harbour aboard the "Pisces" eager for another day's sport.

The fish were biting all day and this resulted in some good catches. Almost 100 lb. of fish was landed and weighed in at the Harbour Tackle shop at the end of the day: 30 lb. by J. Morrish, 20 lb. by



W. Lethbridge and 19 lb. by W. Phillips. There were some good Channel Whiting and Robin Huss.

This is the third Club trip since the formation of the Section. The weather has been kind to us, and we have been able to enjoy three good days' fishing.

#### **Whist Aggregate January 7th**

Gentlemen	
<b>R. Bickley</b>	89
W. Phillips and R. Fullard	83
Ladies	
<b>Mrs. A. Walker</b>	95
Mrs. M. Crabtree	87
Mrs. B. Griffiths	79

## **LONDON**

Talks are currently taking place with a view to reorganising the London Club. We therefore postponed the A.G.M. pending the outcome of these talks.

Meanwhile activities are continuing in the usual way.

The winners of the Thursday Dominoes during January were:

8th January	<b>B. Miller and J. Majchrowicz</b>
	Equal 1st
15th January	<b>M. Sheehan</b>
22nd January	<b>B. Miller and R. Armstrong</b>
	Equal 1st
29th January	<b>B. Miller</b>

The Football Pontoon was won by:

Equal 1st	<b>A. Caldwell and Mrs. Carney</b>	£4 each
Lowest	Mrs. Evans	£1.30
	<i>W. MILLER</i>	

## **MIDLAND**

Two Club meetings have been held during this New Year, the first on Sunday, 11th January, and the second on Sunday 8th February. Both were well attended and we were able to make some good progress in planning this year's events.

During the January meeting we made the draw for our domino competitions and got away to a good start both in the singles and doubles, and more progress was made in February.

We have decided that the venue for our outing should be nearer to home, thus cutting down the travelling time and coach costs. We are planning to go to Symonds Yat on Sunday, 4th July.

This will be a day's outing, and we may have a half-day outing later on in the year.

It has been necessary to appoint a new treasurer because of the death of Louis Androlia, and Eddie Hordyniec has been elected to fill this office. We all wish him and his wife Marjorie the best of luck. I am sure that Eddie will do a good job on our behalf.

The teas for these two meetings were arranged for us by Mrs. Inga Maries in January and by Mrs. Sallie Bilcliff in February. We all thanked the two ladies for putting on such lovely spreads.

*DOUG CASHMORE*  
*Secretary*

## **BOWLING CHAIRMAN**

We were very pleased to learn that Alec Rimmer has been made the first chairman of the Ashcombe Blind Bowling Club, which was founded at the instigation of the Weston-Super-Mare Rotary Club. Members visit the indoor club at Clevedon, one morning each week, and in the summer will be able to use the facilities of the Ashcombe club at Weston, in one of the public parks.

## **PRESENTATION**

Norman Dugdale, of Manchester, has worked for I.C.I. for thirty years—he is a radio call operator at their establishment at Blackley. In November the firm gave a dinner for their employees who were to receive long-service awards, and Norman had chosen as his a gift for his wife, Elsie—a beautiful gold bracelet, with which she was delighted. Norman hopes to go on working for a few years yet, but will certainly treasure the memory of their presentation evening in 1975.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From: George Fallowfield,  
Durrington, Worthing, Sussex**

May one be permitted to congratulate and thank those responsible for the reports on Christmas at Ovingdean and Pearson House? I thoroughly enjoyed reading the Pearson House report—  
THANK YOU.

**From: Sydney Scroggie, Kirkton of  
Strathmartine, by Dundee, Angus,  
Scotland**

A friend of mine reports that on a visit to the Canaries he met an old lad lounging on the beach taking the sun. He was lean and brown, had a bottle of wine on one side of him and a volume of verses on the other, and had an air of blissful contentment about him not often seen in this collapsing world. My friend got on the crack with him, and found out that this chap had been wounded in the Great War, been awarded a small pension, and thereafter meditated the question what to do with the rest of his life.

It occurred to him, with a distaste amounting to revulsion, that if he remained in Britain he would have to get a job to supplement his meagre income, and looking around for some place where this degrading expedient would not be necessary he decided in favour of the Canaries, where he had amiably idled away his time ever since, his pension being adequate to meet all his needs.

Now when I was slaving away in the National Cash Register Company,

**From: Roy W. Hyett, Pearson House**

Would it be a good idea if those St. Dunstaners who wished to, were to send cheques to the BBC, divisible by fifty-two, to cover a whole year's donations to "The Week's Good Cause", in view of the punitive postal payments nowadays?

What do other St. Dunstaners think, please?

helping them to make their silly business machines, I often thought of this fellow, not in the way of envy but in a mood of high-minded condemnation of someone who could so reprehensibly abandon the honest labour which Society enjoins upon us all, for this disgusting lotus life of his in the voluptuous and enervating environment of a sub-tropical island paradise. Now that I am retired however, to look back on a quarter of a century of my life devoted to the manic absurdities of industry, I realise with a sinking heart that perhaps this unabashed idler in the Canaries had the right idea. He, after all, taking the sun, sipping his wine and reading his book of verses, was guiltless of any charge of helping to degrade the species of which he was a truant member. I for my part may have to answer for it some day that I added my weight to keep Industry going, a prime element in the emasculation, stultification and moral collapse of Man.

Now that I am retired it is possible, at any rate, to repent at leisure. Meantime the old lad in the Canaries slumbers on, his conscience easy, and on his lips just the hint of an ironic smile.

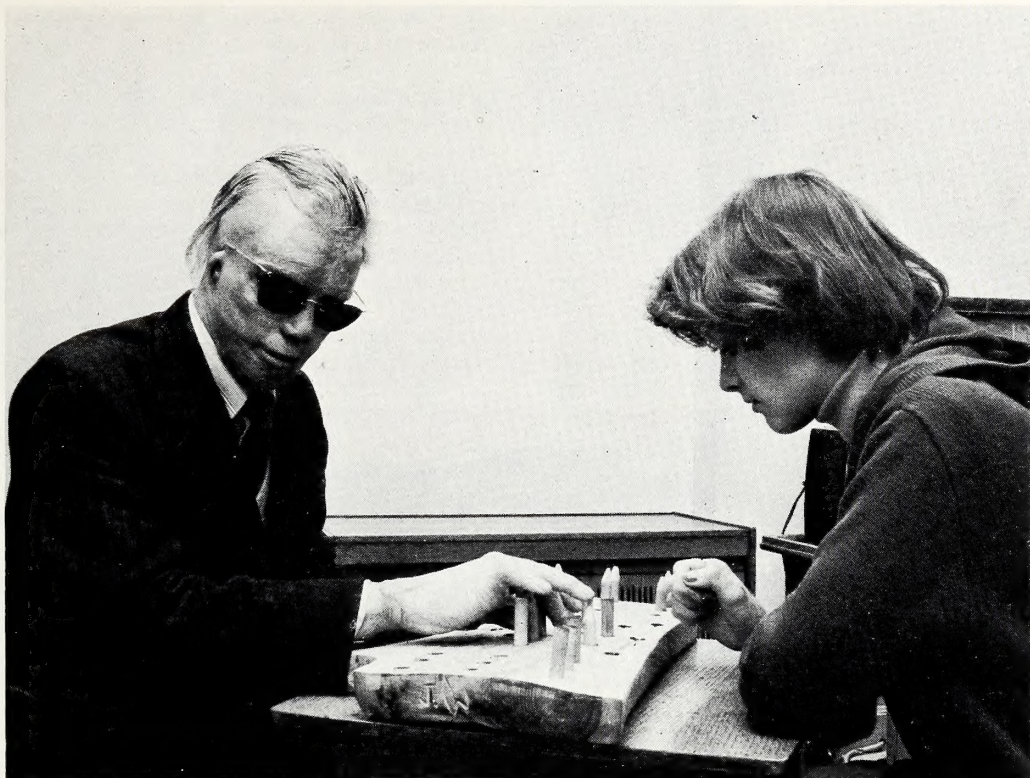
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## MEETING A CITY CHALLENGE

Mary Wilson, eighteen-year-old second daughter of St. Dunstan *Tug Wilson*, of Littleton, near Somerton, Somerset, has just completed a course with the Outward Bound Trust, called City Challenge. It is for the seventeen to twenty-five age group, and lasts three weeks. Designed to stimulate self-knowledge and understanding of others, Mary's course included

working in a geriatric hospital; with spastic children; the mentally and physically handicapped; and cleaning and painting the homes of some old folk. She loved it, and was highly commended at the finish for her initiative and enterprise. Mary's attendance was sponsored by the Somerset Local Authority, and it sounds as if both she, and those she helped, benefitted greatly.





*Jimmy Wright demonstrates Nine Men's Morris. His opponent is Sheila Spencer, of our Public Relations Staff.*

## NINE MEN'S MORRIS

Nine Men's Morris is an old traditional Cornish game, which Jimmy Wright found to be suitable for blind people to play.

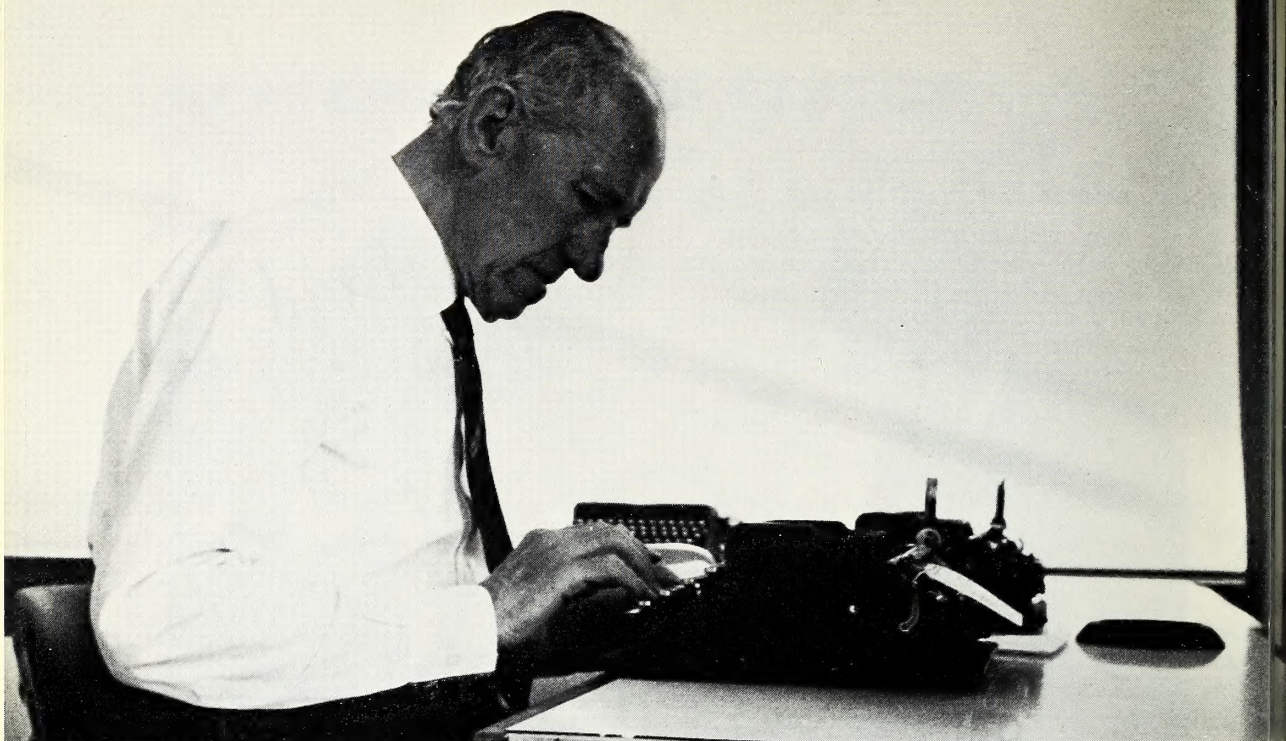
"It struck me as possible because the grooves are nice and deep and well-defined. They cover a limited number of peg-holes and there are just three squares inside each other so it seemed reasonable for a blind person to learn."

Jimmy was introduced to the game by a friend, David Hyde, when he visited his home Retallack Farm, near Constantine, Cornwall. Each player has nine men, which are placed alternately into the holes on the board. If either player succeeds in forming a line of three men following the marked grooves he is able to remove one of the opposing men that are not in a set of three. The winner is the person who

removes seven opposing men, but there are further complications as the game goes on which make it a fascinating contest. A contest which can be against sighted players—the only adaptation needed is putting a point on the white men. "I have played my sighted neice, Sara, who is sixteen, but I am afraid she beat me", confessed Jimmy.

One of the attractions of the game is the board sliced from a tree trunk and cut from trees on David Hyde's land. A board similar to the one shown in our photograph costs £7.50. Incidentally, Jimmy and Janet recommend David Hyde's holiday cottages at Retallack Farm, situated as it is just seven miles from Falmouth and near the famous Helford River, with views to the South and West over the Lizard peninsular.





*Tommy Milligan in the typing room at Pearson House.*

## AS I REMEMBER

### Tommy Milligan talks to David Castleton

This is the first of a series of interviews with those whose memories are part of the unwritten history of St. Dunstan's. To start at the beginning meant a journey, appropriately enough, to Pearson House in Brighton. I was to meet Tommy Milligan, living there permanently now in retirement after a busy career which has taken him into the military hospitals of the first war as a masseur; into France and Germany learning those languages to make himself a translator for commercial firms; into a British P.O.W. camp in World War II where he used his German linguistic skill to teach Braille to blinded German prisoners of war, and to Church Stretton where he taught Braille shorthand to St. Dunstaners.

Tommy is not a man who likes to talk about himself, but when I began to ask him about the beginnings of St. Dunstan's in February 1915 his admiration of Sir Arthur Pearson—or Mr. Pearson as he was when Tommy first met him in a Welsh

Military Hospital—soon set him chatting as his memory took him back to those early days of the First World War.

He enlisted in the Irish Guards in May, 1914. In less than three months the First World War broke out and within another four months, in December 1914, Tommy had been blinded in action at La Bassée, in France.

"When I was wounded and brought to England I was sent to a military hospital in Wales and Arthur Pearson came down there to open a wing of the new Institute for the Blind in Cardiff. He brought me back with him—I travelled with him to Paddington Station and from there to Bayswater."

This came about through a wealthy Cardiff shipbroker, Tommy recalled, "When I arrived as a wounded man in a convoy from France, they put a little paragraph in the Cardiff newspapers to say that among the wounded who arrived last night was one who had been



blinded. I think nearly everybody in Cardiff who knew Braille came up to the hospital to offer to teach me."

At that time Tommy was too ill and the Medical Officer turned the would-be Braille teachers away, except for a girl of seventeen whom he asked to come back. She was the daughter of the shipbroker, whose interest in the blind had been aroused by his child's own eye troubles. She had learned Braille on medical advice that more studying would endanger her sight. So Tommy had a Braille teacher who gave him a flying start for his later work at Bayswater Hill and Regent's Park and, through her father, an early introduction to Arthur Pearson who was then about to launch his new Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors.

"I was told that I was being transferred to a hospital in London and that I would go back with this Mr. Pearson. I had great trust in him because I had often read Pearson's Magazine and Pearson's Weekly and I knew he was a man of distinction, I was most grateful to hear

what his intention was on behalf of blinded soldiers and I was very glad to go to this organisation and learn everything I could."

Tommy found his trust in Sir Arthur Pearson was not misplaced. "He was a man who inspired confidence as soon as you met him and you knew that he was an organiser—a man who could grasp a situation quickly and deal with it. He told me about his blindness going up in the train. He and Mrs. Pearson told me all about themselves and they, of course, asked me all about myself. He was a forceful man and rather inclined to be impatient. He would snap his fingers in order to get something out of you or from his own memory. He had a great habit of snapping his fingers."

"We started at Bayswater Hill because the house in Regent's Park was undergoing alterations and Sir Arthur borrowed the house in Bayswater Hill. I went there with another man whose name was Selby and there were two other men already there. There was a Belgian called

*Tommy Milligan (2nd from left standing) with fellow members of the first massage class 1915/16. Others in the picture are: (standing) Edward Bates, Victor Law, Albert Woollen, (kneeling) Herbert Kirby and William Sewell.*







*St. Dunstan's Open Fours Race, Putney.*

Oscar Daumont and Billy Foxon." Number 6 Bayswater Hill belonged to Mrs. Lewis Hall and this house was used throughout the First World War as a hospital for British sick and wounded. An illuminated address with a note signed Winston S. Churchill, then Secretary of State for War, commemorating this is now in St. Dunstan's possession. Bayswater Hill no longer shows on London's maps, it is all Bayswater Road and the London Embassy Hotel occupies the site.

Tommy recalls it as a big private house: "We slept there—there were two dining rooms, one for the men and one for the staff. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, when they came to the house, he used to spend a good deal of time talking to us men about his plans and what it would be like when we got to Regent's Park. How they would have workshops in the grounds and the trades that we could be taught."

Within a few weeks the move was made, on March 26th 1915, to the house at Regent's Park, called St. Dunstan's. "There may have been a dozen of us when we moved and then there were others

waiting to come in. They had gone home. You see, you get a hospital leave when you are discharged from hospital and a lot of them had gone home. When we went into this Mansion in Regent's Park a larger number of men came in and I should think we were about fifty in quite a short time. But I didn't note these facts, I'm just trying to guess at them now, because they did not interest me. I was too busy learning anatomy and physiology and getting on with Braille."

Although the house and grounds were large it did not take the new St. Dunstaners long to find their way around: "When you are young, you learn very quickly. I was the youngest for quite a long time at St. Dunstan's but I think the oldest couldn't have been much more than thirty. The stables and garages of this mansion were turned into workshops for mat-making, boot-repairs, and carpentry. We had an honorary Superintendent, Mr. H. E. Rose. He was a colleague of Sir Arthur's, a journalist. He organised everything—all the work and all the play."



"We used to get up at six in the morning, if we wished, have a cup of tea and go to the lake in Regent's Park and row. We were very keen on all kinds of things like that. Rowing was the only thing I was any good at really. It was very good exercise."

Many of the St. Dunstaners' sighted cox's were girls who worked in the nearby West End stores. "We had a lot of nice girls, some of them were shop girls. We were not very far from the West End, quite near Baker Street Station and they used to have their breakfasts early, get there about seven and take us out rowing, coxing our boats. Then students from Bedford College for Women in Regent's Park also came."

"We were all very serious about rowing. St. Dunstan's formed a rowing club and we were trained by the President of the Vesta Rowing Club on the Thames. We had a racing four and we raced against schools like Worcester College for the Blind and the Emmanuel School, London. That was a rowing school and we used to race on the Thames against them. We also had a single sculls, double sculls—racing amongst ourselves."

"After racing we would go back, shave and get ready for breakfast at a quarter to nine. Then we used to leave St. Dunstan's at half past nine and walk to the National Institute for the Blind in Great Portland

Street and it was there we were trained as masseurs."

Originally Tommy had other plans for his life as he explained: "I wanted to become a poultry farmer when Sir Arthur told me of the various things we were taught. So I had two or three days' instruction in how to prepare chickens for the table and I soon realised that would not suit me. He had previously asked me to become a masseur and I said I didn't want to, but, after three days in the poultry farm, I decided I would rather give that up and give massage a trial."

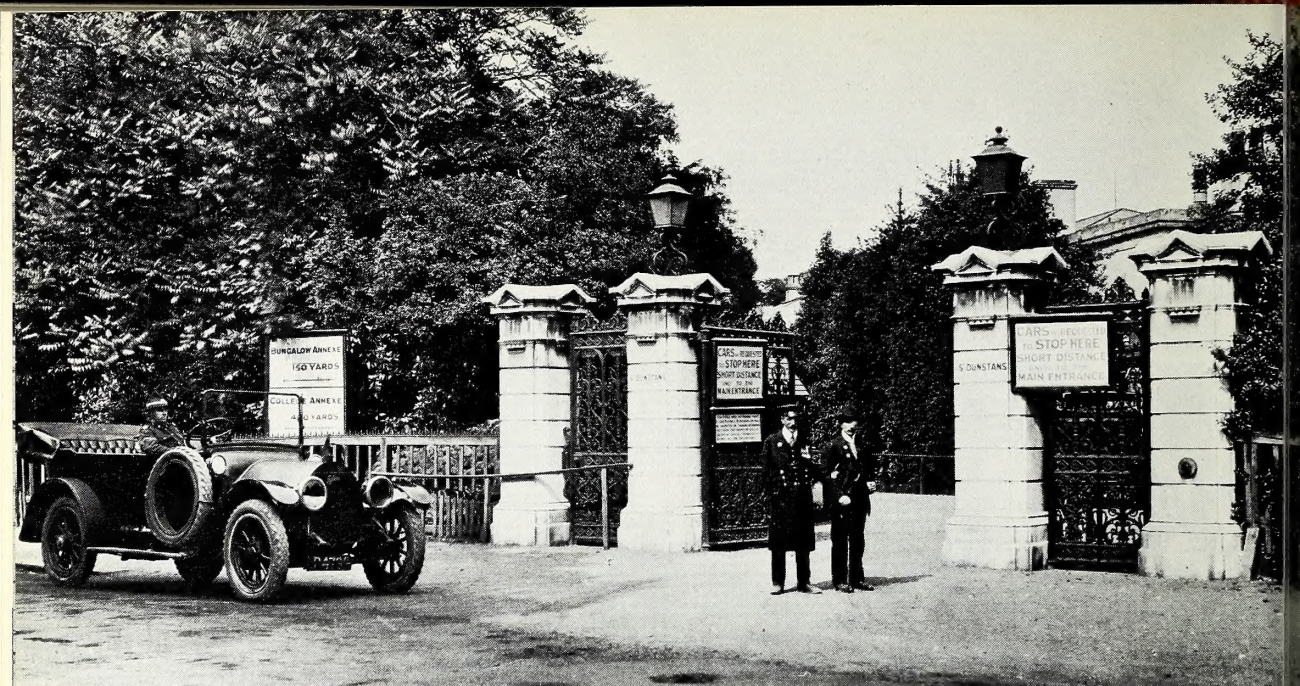
How did Sir Arthur react to this change of mind? I wondered, "Oh, but he wanted me to be a masseur because at the beginning they hadn't very many men whom they thought would be suitable and he wanted men of a certain education to take up massage. He regarded it as the best of all the things that they taught and he was always in a bit of a hurry to get some of us trained and out working in hospitals or private practice."

So Tommy trained as a masseur at the National Institute for the Blind: "We attended lectures in anatomy and physiology and we were taught practical massage as well. Three days a week we went to the Middlesex Hospital. There were six of us and we used to walk to the Middlesex and treat the patients in the Out-Patients' Department."

*H.M. Queen Alexandra with Sir Arthur Pearson at an unidentified St. Dunstan's occasion.*







*The Entrance to St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park.*

"We used to finish about half past four, walk back from Great Portland Street to St. Dunstan's, and have tea about five o'clock and then the rest of the day was our own."

The work of St. Dunstan's attracted the attention of many people, from the shop girls who came to row on the lake to the famous who came to encourage by their presence and their interest. One of the earliest of these, Tommy Milligan recalls, was Horatio Bottomley: "While we were still at Bayswater Hill Mr. Pearson prevailed on him to come and give us a talk. He was great fun—he talked for half an hour, and when he had finished, one of the men said, "Oh, Mr. Bottomley, can you give us a tip for the Lincoln?" He gave us a tip—I backed it, but it didn't win.

"We used to have tremendous concerts. George Robey was a regular. I think we had about three concerts for which George Robey brought up various other artists. They were very good concerts in those days."

Royalty came to Regent's Park: "King George V came up and we were all organised to be doing what we were learning, but as I was fairly good at Braille I sat with the people doing Braille. Others sat at a table being taught typing and then all the men who were learning trades were down in the workshops doing

whatever they were being taught to do. George V went round with Mr. Pearson, Mrs. Pearson and Miss Mace" (afterwards Lady Fraser). "On Alexandra Rose Day, 1915, we had a visit from Queen Alexandra and she brought roses to hand to each of the men. I happened to be reading Braille at that particular time and she—not being used to blind people—she was holding out the bunch and I didn't know. She said, "Oh, I don't think he wants to take them." Suddenly my Braille teacher realised and told me that Queen Alexandra was holding out a bunch of roses to me which I then took from her."

There was great excitement when Lord Kitchener came to St. Dunstan's. "He was a great man, so well known to all the men who had seen him in pictures. He was Minister for War, and he formed Kitchener's Army.

"Lord Kitchener spoke to us individually and he was specially introduced to men from regiments he was connected with. He spoke to men from the Irish Guards, Kitchener being an Irishman, I was introduced to him. I wasn't doing Braille that time. I was doing anatomy with the other students and we had all the bones on the table."

Almost inevitably the talk came round again to the personality that dominated



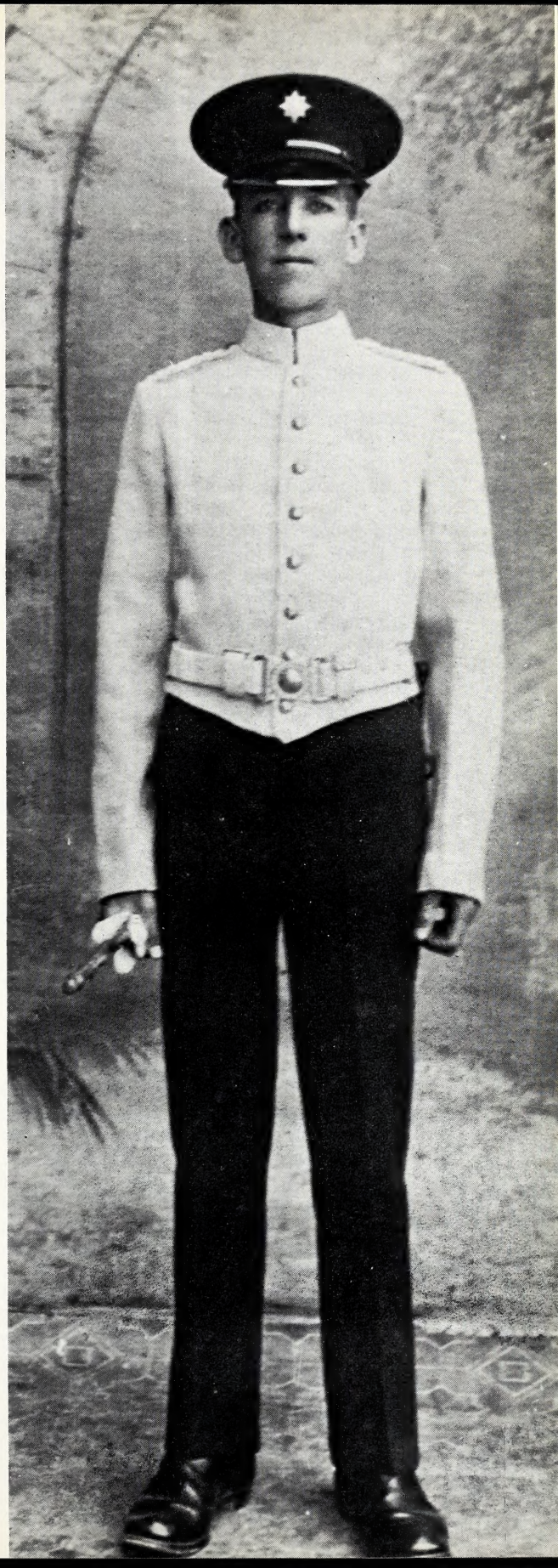
St. Dunstan's in 1915 and 1916. "Sir Arthur Pearson inspired everything with the help of Mr. Rose and the help of Miss Mace, because we had no Council then. Miss Mace—I was going to call her 'Chips', as I knew her then—was Sir Arthur's personal assistant. She was nearly always with him, but she also came among the men. She was a great favourite because she was fascinating, charming—all the men loved her. As soon as she came into the lounge they all greeted her and she had a very attractive way of making friends. To me Lady Fraser is as charming and fascinating now as she was in those early days".

It is Sir Arthur who dominates Tommy's memories of his early blindness. "All the men in those days were known by their surnames. We all called each other Jones or Harris or whatever the names were. When I was discharged from the 2nd London General Hospital at St. Marks College, Chelsea, where I was sent on my transfer from Cardiff, I went straight from St. Marks to St. Dunstan's. As I didn't take a hospital leave, Sir Arthur said 'You'd like to have your mother over here, wouldn't you?' I said, 'Oh, yes'. So he wrote to my home and invited my mother to come over for a couple of weeks and he put her up at the house of some friends of his in Portman Square quite near Regent's Park."

It was the first time Tommy and his mother had met since his wounding. "It was very typical of Sir Arthur to arrange it. I went with the Secretary of St. Dunstan's to Euston Station to meet her and I was standing on the platform. By that time I had recovered from the shock of being blinded and was becoming a fairly useful blind person. When she met me she could hardly believe there was anything wrong with me."

"We whisked her away to St. Dunstan's in a taxi and there Sir Arthur, hearing her call me Tommy, started to call me Master Tommy. I was Master Tommy to Sir Arthur nearly all the time I was at St. Dunstan's. He seemed a very senior person to me. Although I can't imagine that he could have been much more than fifty (in fact, Sir Arthur was 49 in 1915: Editor) he was friendly and very fatherly. He was really fatherly with all the men."

*Tommy Milligan, Irish Guards, 1914.*





## SKI COURSE 1976

### *Organiser's Account - by Jock Carnochan*

This is the third Ski course in which St. Dunstaners have been involved: one in 1971 at Courchevel in the French Alps; last year's, which should have been in Austria but because of the absence of snow was cancelled, and we finished up at Aviemore in Scotland; and this year, from January 23rd to February 1st at Bodertal, situated in South Austria—the Corinthia area, which borders on Yugoslavia, on the edge of Caravanca mountains. This was an excellent course, involving Alan Wortley, Norman Perry and a last-minute substitution of Trevor Tatchell for Johnny Cope, who unfortunately had to meet a hospital appointment for a long-awaited hernia operation—hope you are now recovered, John.

We were accommodated in a typical ski-resort guest house, which was equipped for people walking about with heavy ski boots, etc.—but it was comfortable, and had all the necessary facilities; the food was good, and the service excellent. The conditions for ski-ing were good, with plenty of snow. There were thirty-four visually handicapped potential skiers from Austria and Germany, including five other war-blinded veterans, one of whom was our host and organiser of the course, Willi Hohm—who, incidentally, would like to convey his good wishes to his many friends at Ovingdean.

#### **Slalom Competition**

The course was split into five groups, each group with its own standard of competency and visual acuity. The reason for this was evident at the end of the course, when a slalom competition was organised to determine the measure of instruction given, and to prove to the participants, or rather for the participants to evaluate for themselves, their own progress. The course was tough, under five Austrian Army Master Sergeants who were highly qualified instructors in Alpine and long-distance ski-ing, also in mountaineering, so much so that if they told you you did a particular skill well,

they meant it, and if you didn't do it well you were kept at it until you did. I'm sure that after the first two days our group found muscles they never knew existed (even if two of them were Physios). The daily routine was for us to be on the slopes at 9 a.m., with ski-ing instruction until 4.30 p.m., with an hour's lunch break. You can imagine that after nine days one was really fit, and the progress made was most evident from a sighted observation.

Our instructor, Andy, was not only a good teacher, he was always available to help with all the other many demands made by the blind, from getting shopping to sticking on plasters where the skin had been rubbed away by the hard uppers of one's ski boots. He turned out to be a real friend, who would drive you to master skills you thought were beyond your capabilities; and the other four instructors were all of the same calibre.

#### **International Evening**

Relationships with the other two countries' groups were good, and our evenings were convivially spent over a beer or some hot Austrian wine, talking about the problems that are common to the blind all over the world; and three or four mile walks in the snow to neighbouring farm-type guest houses were arranged, where local farmers would come specially to sing Austrian folk songs, and Willi would give added entertainment on his accordion. The evening sessions also helped Alan Wortley to improve on his German, as he had started a language course fourteen weeks prior to going to Bodertal.

The last day of the course saw us all competing in a 10-gate slalom, and the value of the excellent tuition given by Andy our instructor was most evident in that, of a group of seven, Alan came third, and Norman Perry also came third in his group of six.

The effort on the slalom was entirely individual, in as much that each competitor did the run solo, i.e. from the



start line to the first gate. The skier proceeded to the voice of the caller standing at the point where he had to turn; when he reached that point the caller on the second gate took over, and so on in a zigzag pattern down the piste, which was 200 metres approximately, with the turning points of 90° at 40 metre intervals. This, as one can imagine, required good ski-ing ability, plus good mobility and orientation. This was Alan Wortley's second course, and as a result our instructor stated that Alan was now at a stage where he could compete favourably with other visually

handicapped skiers; unfortunately too late to compete in the forthcoming Winter Olympics for the Handicapped in Sweden in March. However, all three St. Dunstaners who took part, plus those who have been on previous courses, are to be congratulated on their achievements, and on their courage, and are to be recognised as that little bit special in the way of blind sportsmen, as all the blind skiers are recognised in European countries.

Finally, our special thanks to Mr. Paul James for his services to our three St. Dunstaners on and off the ski slopes.

## *An Enjoyable Holiday* by Trevor Tatchell

As a complete novice I would say that ski-ing under proper instruction is very enjoyable. The visit to Bodertal was a unique experience for me, in that I had never before spent so much time in the company of Austrians and Germans, especially the war-blinded, and I found them particularly friendly. They were even willing to attempt a few phrases in the Welsh language!

My personal experience of having, at the Instructor's direction, to stand with my leg out straight with the end of the ski digging into the snow, trying to balance and not succeeding, makes me suggest that a Can Can Dancer's training would be extremely helpful.

I greatly admired the progress of both Alan Wortley and Norman Perry, and I think Norman's suggestion that he write a brief paper on exercises to be undertaken by trainee skiers some two months prior to embarking on an intensive course of instruction, extremely good and very practical.

### **A Harsh Taskmaster**

One needs determination to master the technique, and my splay feet, cartilage and hamstring troubles did not help; they made me develop a technique that passes imagination. This brings me to the Austrian Army Master Sergeant named Andy, who was to my mind a wonderful man. Whilst he was a harsh taskmaster he nevertheless demonstrated considerable understanding of the problems of blindness, and socially he could not do

enough to ensure the smooth running of the course. I will never forget, that after ski-ing down a 400 metre slope in my fashion, which meant doing a 3-point descent with skis wide apart when they should have been together and with my head on the ground when I should have been upright, Andy would say "Trevin, up again"; this then necessitated trudging up the slope in 9 lb. ski boots and 6 ft. skis, bearing in mind that I have a 28½ in. inside leg, and I developed new techniques in falling in a heap with my skis wrapped around the most peculiar places. Although there were many tumbles with bruised and bleeding ankles, one always felt safe with Andy and it was all great fun. Despite the gruelling course, I found after a time that it became easier and I derived much pleasure from my new ability to ski down slopes.

### **Willi Hohm**

From the expertise and skill demonstrated by the Austrian and German parties it was evident that physical fitness and co-ordination was essential, and Willi Hohm, a war-blinded Austrian and leader of the Austrian Party, will remain in my memory as he seemed to have been born on skis.

One evening the whole party visited a Guest House, apparently "Gas" in German, and I was wondering what we were in for. However, there were many Austrian yodellers there, and we were able to join in and master the chorus of "cuckoo" and "yodel-ee-ee-o" as these words cropped up in the middle of each



line; this, of course, after several mugs of hot Austrian wine! This was the starless night when we were taught a lesson in mobility by Franz, a totally blind Austrian; it was 17° below when we left the Guest House and Franz volunteered to take us the 3 miles back to our Hotel, and he

faultlessly guided us along an icy and slippery path like a Welsh mountain pony.

May I, in conclusion, wish all who take part in the Olympic Ski-ing Sports for the Disabled in Sweden later this year every success. I now fully appreciate their skill and dedication.

## *Norman Perry's Conversion*

My environment is at sea-level, my greatest pleasures are the thrills and spills of racing a sailing dinghy, mountains were merely piles of undesirable rubble and Winter Sports not my scene. My reason for accepting the invitation to go on a course to learn to ski was to prove myself right. Bodortal, situated close to the Yugoslavian border, is no luxury hotel; it is made for skiers who want nothing else but to ski. The food was plentiful and good, the accommodation sparse but comfortable, entertainment home made and all the better for it. With five hours a day of first class, well-disciplined ski-ing instruction under the eagle eye of a Master Sergeant of the Austrian Army, one could not fail to progress from a faltering, hesitant slithering idiot into a confident, semi-skilled skier in one week. I still recall the painful muscular agony of those first couple of days; the weary way one had to drag one's aching limbs up the slope again for yet another sliding, tumbling run down again, to be heartened by the occasional word of praise from our patient instructor, who gave us no rest but urged us on to greater efforts and heights. I remember clearly how, on the third day, I found my limbs no longer ached, and the realisation that I had

fallen only once, and at last I understood what was meant by the pleasure of ski-ing. I found, too, that it had something in common with my dinghy sailing, having to adapt my balance and actions in a rapidly changing situation, all of which I am certain helps me in my everyday life by improving my mobility. The slalom competition at the end of the course, using audible gates, proved to me that ski-ing can be a competitive sport for blind persons, and that for me made it all worth while. I would very much like to emulate the skill of the Austrian blind skiers, whom I thank for the advice and encouragement that they gave us.

### **Pre-Ski Exercises Advised**

Suggestions: if any other St. Dunstaner is invited to try ski-ing then he should be prepared to work hard at pre-ski exercises for at least a couple of months before going; secondly, that each skier should be asked to wear a Continental type identity waist coat which would allow sighted skiers to take evasive action when necessary.

Would I go again? to Bodortal, certainly; Everest, possibly, especially if Andy were there.

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## **Welcome to St. Dunstan's**



**Harry Graham Davies**, of Llanelli, Dyfed, who joined St. Dunstan's in February. He served with the Royal Navy and was a prisoner of war in the Far East during the Second World War. He is married and has four children.

*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Vincent Maurice Evans**, of Falmouth, Cornwall, joined St. Dunstan's in November. He served with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in the Second World War. He is married with two adult sons.



**Eric Ernest Henry Ould** of Southwick, Sussex, who joined St. Dunstons on 22nd January, 1976. For many years he worked at a power station, but since retiring due to loss of sight he has been an active member of a local blind club, and has taken up many useful hobbies. He is married, with adult family of a son and two daughters.

**Charles Henry Parsons** of Cheltenham, Glos., who joined St. Dunstan's in February. He served as a gunner with the Royal Artillery in the Second World War. He is a widower, and has a son and a daughter.

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## ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY FORMED

At a meeting held at Headquarters on Saturday, 17th January, the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society was formed. Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, our Chairman, has accepted the Presidency of the Society, the objects of which are:

"To create and encourage an interest in, and further knowledge of, amateur radio amongst St. Dunstaners, their contacts and friends".

The meeting, under the temporary chairmanship of Norman French, St. Dunstan's Research Engineer, adopted the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

The election of officers under the new rules took place as follows:

*Chairman:* Bill Shea G4 AUJ

*Secretary/Treasurer:* Ted John G3 SEJ

*Committee members:*

George Cole G4 AWI

Tommy Gaygan G4 AFV

Duncan Sutherland G4 DJI

Only St. Dunstaners will be admitted to full membership of the Society and only full members will be allowed to hold office, nominate officers and vote. Through Associate and Affiliated Membership the Society will be able to include other blind amateurs and blind or sighted supporters.

An entrance fee of £2.50 will be levied on Full members only and Annual

Subscriptions will be at the following rates:

Full Member	£2.50
Associate Member	£2.00
Affiliated Member	£1.00

The Society will apply for affiliation to the Radio Society of Great Britain, the Radio Amateur Invalid and Bedfast Club, the Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society, the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society and the Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society.

Secretary, Ted John, is communicating with all known Radio Hams in St. Dunstan's and he hopes others interested will contact him at his home address:

52 Broadway Avenue  
Wallasey  
Merseyside  
L45 6TD  
Tel.: 051-638 5514

"One of our aims is to provide the exchange of information between blind amateurs. This will take time, but it is a good beginning", said Ted.

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## THE VIMY GARDEN SHOW

by Leonard Little

Till many years had aged the tale  
The major never knew  
How much his foolish cup of tea  
Amused a certain few.

"I'll have my tea in the garden, Brown,"  
Said he at half-past three,  
Whereon Brown placed the wherewithal  
Beneath the cherry-tree.

Through peephole in the garden wall,  
Made by a hostile shell,  
The entrances, decor and cast  
Could be observed quite well.  
A perfect setting, it was clear,  
Which needed only action  
To make the show what it became,—  
A number-one attraction.

The major barely was allowed  
To seat himself and pour  
When, as the cup approached his lips,  
A loud, explosive roar  
Sent major in unseemly haste,  
Intent on safety first,  
To reach his bomb-proofed cellar door  
Before the next one burst.



"Was that a whiz-bang, Brown,"  
he asked,

"That nearly got my hide?  
Most likely just a random shot;  
Still, bring my tea inside."

But next day at three-forty-five,  
The following at four,  
He missed his tea by half an inch  
And bolted as before.

And better still the morning show  
When out-door plumbing called;  
That was the act that really held  
The spectators enthralled.  
His furtive entry scarce was made  
Before a bang and crash  
Caused major, mission unfulfilled,  
To exit with a dash.

As comedy superbly played  
This simple little skit  
In London play-house might have been

The season's greatest hit;  
But here there was no loud applause,  
No gale of raucous laughter,  
For who could say what dire fate  
Would follow fast thereafter?

The major, though he played it well,  
Did not enjoy the role  
Which sent him in a frantic rush  
To cellar or shell-hole,  
Leaving his dignity behind  
And muttering invective  
Against a whiz-bang sniper who  
Could be so damned selective.

But we were not in Heinie's view;  
How could he, then, have known  
What majors do and when and where  
When in the battle zone?  
And was it mere coincidence  
That there was much ado  
About this time when the grenades  
Checked short a box or two?

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

We wish to congratulate St. Dunstaner *Joseph William Langley* of Brighton, Sussex, on his remarriage, to Mrs. Margaret Mary Britton, on 10th January, 1976.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Claude Mosley* of Solihull, Warwickshire, are pleased to announce that their son Paul was married to Celia Clarke at Doddington Church, Kent, on 20th December.

*Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Nabney* of Belfast, Northern Ireland, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Marjorie, was married to Andrew Spence on 3rd January.

### Silver Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. John Simpson*, of Brighton, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on 10th February.

### Ruby Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. James Blakeley*, of Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs., who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 30th November.

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Goodhead* of Sheffield, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 26th December.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Percy Blackmore*, of Cardiff, Glam., whose 5th grandchild was born on 17th September 1975; a daughter, Marianne Elaine, for their daughter Ruth and son-in-law.

Frances and her husband, daughter and son-in-law of the late *Ronald Gray*, of London SE12, and of Mrs. Joy Blain, on the birth of a son, Benjamin, on 23rd December.



*Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Grimes* of Eastbourne, Sussex, whose youngest daughter, Susan, and son-in-law Harold Gerrard, of Langley, Eastbourne, had a son, Christopher, on 8th December.

*Mr. and Mrs. Allan Hold*, of Yeovil, Somerset, whose seventh grandchild, a daughter for their son Brian, was born recently.

*Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rosewarne*, of Manchester, whose second grandchild was born on 19th November; a daughter, Emma Kate, for their daughter-in-law, and son Malcolm.

*Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Vowles* of Portsmouth, Hants, whose daughter Lesley Nuttall and her husband, of Pershore, Worcestershire, had a daughter Kelly Suzanne on 27th December.

## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*James Barkby*, of Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, whose wife Ethel died on 20th January, 1976.

*Joseph Llewellyn Edwards*, of Coventry, West Midlands, whose mother died on 10th February.

*Eric Jenkins*, of Ferring-by-Sea, Sussex, whose wife Eva died on 7th February.

*Alec Rimmer*, of Weston-Super-Mare, Avon, whose Mother, Mrs. Janet Rimmer, died in Preston, Lancashire, on 10th January, at the age of 87.

*William Clifford Scott*, of Winsford, Cheshire, whose wife, Mary Ellen, died on 25th January.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Edward George Anderson.** *Royal Engineers*  
Edward George Anderson, of 18 Silverdale Court, Woodthorpe, York, died on 27th August 1975, aged 67.

He was wounded in Tunisia in the Second World War, and after training at St. Dunstan's, he moved from York to take up shop-keeping in East Ham. He managed his business very efficiently, ably assisted by his wife, for nineteen years. In 1967 they moved back to York to enjoy a well-earned retirement. He was very interested in local activities, and found rug-making a pleasant hobby.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Anderson, and family.

**Edward Bower.** *Royal Navy*

Edward Bower, of Accrington, Lancashire, died on 30th January in hospital, at the age of 63.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1927, but was

invalided out in 1945 with defective vision. After coming to St. Dunstan's in 1961 he undertook industrial employment for a few years, until he retired due to ill health.

He leaves a widow, Emily, and three children.

**Richard William Cumberland.** *Royal Artillery (L.A.A.)*

Richard William Cumberland, of Burgess Hill, Sussex, died at Pearson House on 14th December 1975 at the age of 70.

He served in the R.A. (L.A.A.) from 1939 until 1942, and was injured by a bomb blast at Tangmere in 1940. He had been a cameraman, and for a time had lived in Rhodesia. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1961, and learned Braille and typewriting. Until prevented by ill health in 1974, he was a journalist, and author of several books.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Coralie Cumberland, a son and daughter.



**Herbert Duxbury.** *Labour Corps*

Herbert Duxbury of Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, died on 15th January at the age of 80.

He lost his sight while serving in the Labour Corps during the First World War. In 1948 he came to St. Dunstan's, and trained to become a joiner. He worked in this capacity for our Stores Department until his retirement in 1972. For many years he was a Lay Preacher.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Duxbury, and daughter Mrs. Mary Hore and her family.

**George Henry Fisk.** *Pioneer Corps*

George Henry Fisk, of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, died on 21st January at the age of 72.

He trained as a basket maker in 1949, after giving up his work in an Ordnance factory, and became a full St. Dunstaner in 1951. His hobby was looking after his greenhouse.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Marie Fisk.

**James Alexander McClintock.**

*Royal Artillery (L.A.A.)*

James Alexander McClintock, of Marple, Stockport, Cheshire, died on Thursday, 15th January, at Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport, at the age of 65.

Mr. McClintock's sight failed while he was in service in the army in 1941, but it was not until 1961 that he came to St. Dunstan's. He worked in handicrafts for our Stores Department, but his main interest and delight was his garden, and his greenhouse, in which he enjoyed growing some of the more unusual varieties of plants. He and his wife played a large part in helping form the Marple Club for the Blind in 1974. Earlier that year our St. Dunstaner took part in a sponsored walk in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, and raised most money out of 300 participants. He was nursed devotedly at home by his wife Florence, until being admitted to hospital just four days before he passed away.

**Sidney George Mortimore.** *Royal Artillery*

Sidney George Mortimore, of Bournemouth, Dorset, died on 11th February, aged 66.

He served as a Bombardier with the Royal Artillery from 1939 to 1945, and joined St. Dunstan's in 1970. He had been a skilled tradesman connected with making and measuring carpets.

He leaves a widow and members of his family.

**Daniel Francis O'Sullivan.** *Royal Artillery*

Daniel Francis O'Sullivan, of Goring-By-Sea, West Sussex, died at Pearson House on 18th January, aged 59.

He served in the Royal Artillery from 1938 until 1946. He was born in the U.S.A., but lived in this country for many years. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1971. In 1973 he was married, for a second time, to a V.A.D. who he had met whilst spending a convalescent holiday at Pearson House. His daughter, Mrs. Mary Jensen, flew from America to see her father just before his death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Enid O'Sullivan, and members of the family of his first marriage.

**Vernon Shaw.** *Royal West Surreys*

Vernon Shaw, of Braughing, Herts, died on 10th February at the age of 81.

He served in the R.W. Surreys from 1914 to 1917, having previously enlisted in the Territorials in 1912. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1957. He was a manual worker, and had been a widower for many years.

He leaves members of his family.

**George White.** *Royal Army Medical Corps*

George White, of Guiseley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, died on 29th January, at the age of 78.

While serving in the R.A.M.C. during the First World War he suffered mustard gas poisoning in April 1918, which impaired his sight. However, this did not fail until many years later, and he had already retired when he came to St. Dunstan's in 1964. Being a knowledgeable gardener, he made this his occupation, together with the care of a small greenhouse.

His wife died a year ago, and he leaves a son Peter and family.

**Thomas Williams.** *South Wales Borderers*

Thomas Williams, of Brynmawr, Gwent, died on 6th February at the age of 80.

He was wounded on the Somme during the First World War, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1974, having retired from his work as a miner in 1958. His wife died in September 1975.

He leaves four children.

**John Woodhead.** *Royal Army Service Corps*

John Woodhead, of South Shore, Blackpool, Lancs, died on 1st February at the age of 67.

After his war service, he worked as a compositor in the printing trade for a few years, until his failing sight no longer made this possible. He was unfortunate enough to suffer from arthritis to such an extent that he was confined to a wheelchair, but nevertheless was able to enjoy frequent holidays at the St. Dunstan's homes in Brighton.

He leaves a widow, Annetta, and three children.



**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**APRIL 1976**





# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 673

APRIL 1976

10p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman:

### Memorial to Lord Fraser of Lonsdale

Many St. Dunstaners and widows and a number of regular readers of the *Review* have very kindly sent contributions to the cost of the memorial tablet to be erected in Westminster Abbey Cloisters.

I should have liked to reply personally to all but the postage rate nowadays is so high and we are endeavouring to cut costs as much as possible.

I am therefore writing this note to thank very warmly all those who are sharing in the cost of the erection of this tablet.

Jon Earnett-Dune

CHAIRMAN

## MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE HONOURS LORD FRASER

A service in tribute to Lord Fraser of Lonsdale was held at his old school, Marlborough College, on Sunday, 7th March. This was part of an Old Marlburian Club Weekend. The service, which included a reading from H. G. Wells' short story, *The Country of the Blind*, was attended by Lord Fraser's daughter, The Hon. Mrs. A. E. McDonald, his sister, Mrs. E. F. Dacre, and his grandson, Dr. A. N. McDonald.

In the course of his sermon, the Rev. Peter Hardman, referred to Nunez, the one sighted man who found himself in *The Country of the Blind*, and went on to say:

"But could it be that our society is becoming 'The Country of the Blind'?—that our materialistic age has induced a strange disease like that which affected

those dwellers in H. G. Wells' strange valley, so that not our physical, but our spiritual sight—or insight—is shrivelling away? In that case, God, like the mountain peaks around the hidden valley of the Blind, is not only beyond our sight, but beyond our comprehension. If this be so, then mustn't our lot be as pathetic as Nunez at first believed it to be for the citizens of the Country of the Blind?

"Is the role of the Church, as he believed his to be, to show them the errors of their ways, and to demonstrate his own superiority? No! We must understand, as Nunez had to learn to understand, that the sightless inhabitants may develop skills, abilities and philosophies equal to, and superior to his own. The spiritually blind in our world may be good, clever, loving, inventive, happy, normal—just like you or

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Front and Back Covers: *Some of George Brooks' life-like elephant models:* (see Elephant Man on centre pages).



### **Lord Fraser—continued**

me. We will live among them, we will get to know them, fall in love with them—and perhaps we may one day decide to become as one of them—indeed you may have already made that decision.

"Think for a moment, then, of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale. This man, blind for sixty years, accomplished more in his life-time than almost all of his sighted contemporaries. He loved life; he found a great fulfilment in helping others. Any of us would be delighted to accomplish a fraction of his achievements. But do you think for one moment that if he had been offered the chance of regaining his sight, that he would not have leaped at it!

"This Service combines many art forms: the inspiration of art in the paintings along the walls, the splendour of music and choral singing, and the timeless words of Scripture—all combine to proclaim this one Truth:

"That Jesus Christ still opens Men's eyes—and gives them vision. 'To open the eyes of a man born blind—it is unheard of since time began. But all I know is this: Once I was blind, now I can see'."

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### **FREE GAS SAFETY CHECKS**

Further to the statement about the above matter which was contained in the *St. Dunstan's Review* for January, enquiries have been made of British Gas Corporation and quoted below is an extract from British Gas News Release.

"Safety checks will then be made to ensure the soundness of the installation and appliances. In addition, any necessary adjustments to appliances will also be made free of charge. Minor parts required, up to a cost of £1, will also be free".

However, the various area Gas Boards will only act on a written request from St. Dunstan's so that if you live in a St. Dunstan's house you should contact your Staff Surveyor so that he can write to the correct area official. If you do not live in a St. Dunstan's house you should write to your Welfare Visitor and she will take up your request with the area official involved.

### **BLIND STUDENTS AT THE OPEN UNIVERSITY**

Any blind or partially sighted person thinking of taking an Open University degree should contact the Open University Special Counselling Service for Disabled Students for full information about the facilities available to them. Handicapped students may be recommended for a guaranteed place on an O.U. course if they can prove that they would otherwise suffer severe educational hardship. There are special induction courses for blind and partially sighted students run by the O.U. in conjunction with ABAPSTAS (the Association of Blind and Partially Sighted Teachers and Students). A limited number of courses, mainly in the Arts faculty, are available on tape through the RNIB Student Tape Library, but it is also possible for a blind student to be "paired" with a sighted person doing a similar course and arrange for course material to be read onto tape or cassette. For full information write to Geoffrey Tudor, Senior Counsellor for Disabled Students, Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes. The RNIB has recorded a "Guide to Applicants for Undergraduate Courses at the Open University" which is available on a Talking Book cassette. The Tape Recording Service for the Blind is also willing to record material for O.U. students. Contact the Secretary, Charles Cadwell, at 48 Fairfax Road, Farnborough, Hants. GU14 8JP.

*Reprinted from "In Touch" bulletin, January, 1976*

### **ROYAL AIR FORCES EX-P.O.W. ASSOCIATION**

Our Chairman has received a letter from a Committee Member of the Royal Air Forces Ex-P.O.W. Association inviting St. Dunstaners to be honorary members of this Association.

In his letter, Mr. Vic Gammon says "I am sure that they would meet some old friends and find a real comradeship at our reunions and other activities".

We suggest that interested St. Dunstaners might make direct contact with Mr. Gammon at: 110, Okehampton Crescent, Welling, Kent.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From: Mrs. B. M. Stratfull, Blackpool, Lancs.**

Referring to the picture on Page 15 of the March, 1976 *Review*, this is easily identified being the occasion when Queen Alexandra was presented with the Mahogany Table made by Thomas W. Stratfull and the Basket by Paddy Moore. The others in the photo, I believe, were Sir Robert Borden, Princess George of Russia, Princess Victoria and the Matron of the Bungalow, where the presentation was made.

My late husband, T. W. Stratfull was totally blind and both hands were badly damaged. Queen Alexandra presented both men with a special Braille Watch with her Monogram of crossed A's on the front.

I am sorry I have not the date, but our copies of the St. Dunstan's *Reviews* were destroyed after we were bombed out and the furniture my husband had made was damaged when it was stored in Harringay. The occasion would probably be 1919 or 1920.

I have a framed copy of this photo in my dining room, and also a newspaper cutting which states "Queen Alexandra, accompanied by Princess Victoria has visited St. Dunstan's to witness performance by The Pierrot Troupe of Blinded Heroes and Her Majesty, on whose left is seen Sir Arthur Pearson, was presented by one of the patients with carnations placed in a basket made at the Hostel."

I trust this information will be of help to you.

*The photograph from last month's As I Remember feature, showing a little more of the late Thomas Stratfull's table. With Mrs. Stratfull's information we were able to discover that this picture appeared in the January 1919 issue of St. Dunstan's Review. The occasion took place on 12th December, 1918.*





**From: Glyn Jones, Folkestone, Kent**

I was interested and amused to read Sydney Scroggie's letter about the old man with the Omar Khayyam outlook.

We cannot abjure our responsibilities, and life is a paradox. W. H. Davies tells us to stand and stare, whilst John Donne has written "No man is an Island". Sizzling in the sun saps the strength, and I would prefer a quart of good ale to a gallon of wine! The disorders of the tropical scene are many. Malaria, flies, dengue fever and tinea (sweat rash) with scorpions and snakes to help.

Here where the North Downs beckon I find my world walking with my dog. The wind blows fresh where the grass is green, and along the cliffs the murmur of the sea and the cry of the gulls is the changeless music of the years. I could

not join the old warrior in that sun blessed isle. I would miss the seasons and the changing mood of Nature in its endless beauty. I join issue with Scroggie only in that I believe the menial tasks we did were worthwhile, for in another verse it was said that "life is real; life is earnest".

I like to think of Man as a figure standing amidst the smoking ruins of a bombed town, or the aftermath of an earthquake, and preparing to build again. Blake's Jerusalem will not be built sitting in the sun. Systems will collapse, but I think Man will prevail. I trained with Scroggie at Ovingdean from 1948-50 and he was an activist then. Shades of Miss MacAndrew and the reading room, but honestly Scroggie, isn't it fun to climb a mountain?

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## REMEMBER THE SOMME?

Malcolm Brown, Producer of Documentary Programmes for BBC Television, is anxious to hear from old soldiers who fought in the Somme offensive, with a view to quoting from their reminiscences in a documentary film on the Battle of the Somme in the 60th anniversary year. He is concentrating on the opening day of the battle, 1st July, 1916, but he is also interested in the training and preparation of Kitchener's new armies between 1914 and 1916.

Any St. Dunstaners who would like to help Mr. Brown should contact him at the BBC Television Centre, London W12 7RJ.

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## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

**The Closing Date of the Derby Sweepstake is Wednesday, 19th May.**

Tickets are 20p each, and are limited solely to St. Dunstaners or St. Dunstan's trainees.

**Each application must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

The name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, should be sent, with the stamped

addressed envelope, to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5QN.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday 27th May. All those drawing a horse will be notified.

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## MAINLY FOR WOMEN

### REGIONAL RECIPES

In our January issue we invited ladies (and gentlemen!) who had favourite recipes from their own part of the world to pass them on to our other readers. **Mrs. Margaret Stanway**, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, writes: "I know this isn't a regional tip, but this is my favourite 'high tea'—bacon, cheese and tomato. Grill or fry some bacon or ham; cut up tomatoes—add pepper and salt, cook gently in pan and then add sliced cheese and cook until melted. And hey presto, a tasty meal in less than five minutes". It sounds tasty enough to try out!

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## APOLOGY

Apologies to Mrs. Spurway and her daughter Jandy for a double error. Mrs. Spurway's grand-daughter's name is: Melita Lucy Odeyne Paton.



## CHess INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

by Dave Thomas

*Pictured left*

I am pleased to report that we had the largest attendance for over twenty years at our chess instruction weekend, held at Ian Fraser House from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th February. At our opening session on Friday evening, our good friend and tutor for many years, Mr. Bonham, suggested that we divided into the following three groups:

Beginners—J. Black. F. Bullough. A. Carter. E. Frearson. S. Heys. P. McCormack. Miss B. Simon. R. Stan-  
ners. W. Thomas.

Improvers—E. Allchin. R. Benson. P. Blackmore. R. Davis. Mrs. V. Delaney. Mrs. A. Gimbrere. G. Hudson. J. Padley. R. Palmer. M. Tybinski.

Advanced (dubbed The Professors)—R. Donald. R. Hyett. H. Mallinson. D. Thomas.

Mr. Bonham gave each group three periods of instruction during the weekend, allocating a slightly larger part of his time to the beginners. Here he was ably assisted by a new friend of St. Dunstan's, Miss Daphne Garland, a county player who we hope will visit us again at our future chess weekends.

At our final session on Sunday afternoon, engraved cups were presented to our current champions—Section one, held jointly between R. Donald and H. Mallinson; Section two, G. Hudson. Vi Delaney made a small presentation on our behalf to Mr. Bonham and he, in his closing remarks, said how delighted he was at seeing so many people there; a special word of welcome was made to our deaf blind St. Dunstaner Wally Thomas.

On behalf of us all I would like to thank Matron, Mrs. Williams and all the staff at Ovingdean for their Trojan efforts to make it a most enjoyable weekend. I would urge all those who attended and anyone else interested to come to our chess championships which will be held later in the year; win or lose everyone always enjoys them.







*Mrs. Nora Field with Blodwyn Simon and Bruce Ingrey, winners of the trophy honouring her late husband's memory, the Alf Field Memorial Cup.*

*Roy Armstrong receives the Lord Fraser Cup for individuals from Mrs. Field.*



## **BACK IN THE OLD ROUTINE**

### **Bridge Congress at Ian Fraser House**

**By J. Lynch**

Once again we are back at Fraser House for our Annual Bridge Congress, this was really a wonderful week-end and thoroughly enjoyed by all those taking part, and here may I say welcome to all the newcomers I hope they will all become members of our Bridge Club. We competed for five cups over the week-end and full results will be found below this article, but pride of place on this occasion must go to THE ALF FIELD, this magnificent trophy was presented by Nora Field and is a fitting tribute to a wonderful man who devoted well over thirty years giving help and advice to all Bridge Members. He also initiated all these wonderful years at Harrogate, plus wonderful friendship and kindness, thank you Nora for this marvellous trophy. On



Saturday evening we had a very fine get together in the new Club Rooms with Licensed Bar, this was most enjoyable and I thought it a pity that more Members were not there to enjoy it with us, maybe we will have a better attendance on our next meeting at Brighton. In conclusion can I say a very warm thank you to all members of the Staff who were so helpful, to the Markers without them this function could not take place, and last but no mean feat, thank you, Geoff Connell for a marvellous job directing, sometimes under trying conditions and the best tribute I can pay to you Geoff is that Alf Field picked you to succeed him at St. Dunstan's and he made a marvellous choice.

### BRIDGE CONGRESS RESULTS

Sir Arthur Pearson's Cup for Pairs

- 1st **Miss B. Simon, B. Ingrey**
- 2nd R. Evans, W. Phillips

Sir Arthur Pearson's Cup for Foursomes

- 1st **Mrs. V. Delaney, R. Freer**  
**W. Allen, R. Armstrong**
- 2nd Miss B. Simon, B. Ingrey,  
E. Slaughter, G. Hudson

Alf Field Memorial Cup

- 1st **Miss B. Simon, B. Ingrey**
- 2nd W. Phillips, R. Evans

Lord Fraser Cup (Individuals)

- 1st **R. Armstrong**
- 2nd B. Ingrey
- 3rd Mrs. V. Delaney

Drummer Downs Cup

- 1st **A. Dodgson, M. Tybinski**
- 2nd P. Nuyens, W. Burnett

First Bridge Drive

- 1st **J. Lynch, B. Miller**
- 2nd P. Nuyens, J. Whitcombe

Second Bridge Drive

- 1st **Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Bickley**
- 2nd H. Meleson, Mrs. Meleson

*Mrs. Vi Delaney (centre) with (l.-r.) Ron Freer, Bill Allen, Roy Armstrong, winners of the Sir Arthur Pearson Cup.*





# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 446*

## **The Italians**

by Luigi Barzini

*Read by Andrew Gemmill*

*Reading Time 17 hours*

The author, Italian M.P., political journalist and war-time anti-Fascist, traces the development of the Italian character from early days to present time.

The result is a remarkable biography of a whole race, a people forced to endure centuries of foreign occupation, a fragmented country of divided fiercely-held loyalties, perpetually surrounded by tangible evidence of vanished glories.

There are some finely executed pen-portraits of famous (and infamous) Italians, Cola di Rienzi, Machiavelli, the Medicis and the clownish Mussolini.

According to Barzini the Italians are not too strong on efficiency. Claims for damage caused by Garibaldi and his Red Shirts were finally settled in the 1950's—ninety-six years after the event!

This is a well-researched, well-written book which manages to throw considerable light on the complex character of a highly-civilised and often much misunderstood, race of people.

*Cat No. 162*

## **Any God Will Do**

by Richard Condon

*Read by Anthony Parker*

*Reading Time 13½ hours*

At the age of fourteen, Francis Wollmer is taken out of an orphanage by a distinguished New York banker. Over the ensuing years he conceives the extraordinary idea that his parents are members of the English aristocracy.

The book opens with Francis, now thirty-eight, alone in the bank with his benefactor. The banker shoots himself and the opportunist Francis abstracts 450,000 dollars from the strongroom, knowing that he will never be suspected.

In an effort to cure him of his delusion his wife tells him the terrible truth about his parentage. His only reaction is to desert her, assume a false identity, open a Swiss bank account, and disappear en route for England and his noble parents.

He assumes the life-style of a gentleman of wealth, living in England, France and Switzerland with his upper-class mistress. He is now consumed by his paranoia, a monomaniac, teetering on the brink of total insanity.

The final blow comes when he learns that the genealogist, to whom he has paid vast sums to obtain title to an English dukedom, is in fact a common swindler. He escapes certain committal to a mental clinic by fleeing to Paris. There he comes face to face with someone from his distant clouded past (a nice twist, this).

I found this a curiously compelling book. It is written with all the skill and cunning that one would expect from the author of *The Manchurian Candidate*.

*Cat. No. 763*

## **Old Goriot**

by Honoré de Balzac

Translated by Ellen Marriage

*Read by Robin Holmes*

*Reading Time 12 hours*

The story is set in Paris in the early eighteen hundreds. The residents of Madame Vaucaire's sleazy boarding-house in the Latin Quarter are from varied backgrounds, but the common denominator is poverty.

There is mystery here, too. Why is "Papa" Goriot forced to beggar himself, go hungry even, to give money to his two selfish daughters, both richly married and leaders of the glittering Paris society? And what is the real identity of the sinister Vautrin?

As the story unfolds we meet other residents of Maison Vaucaire, the young Eugene de Rastignac, determined to claw his way up the dizzy ladder of Paris society, sad little Victorine, the dispossessed heiress, and others.

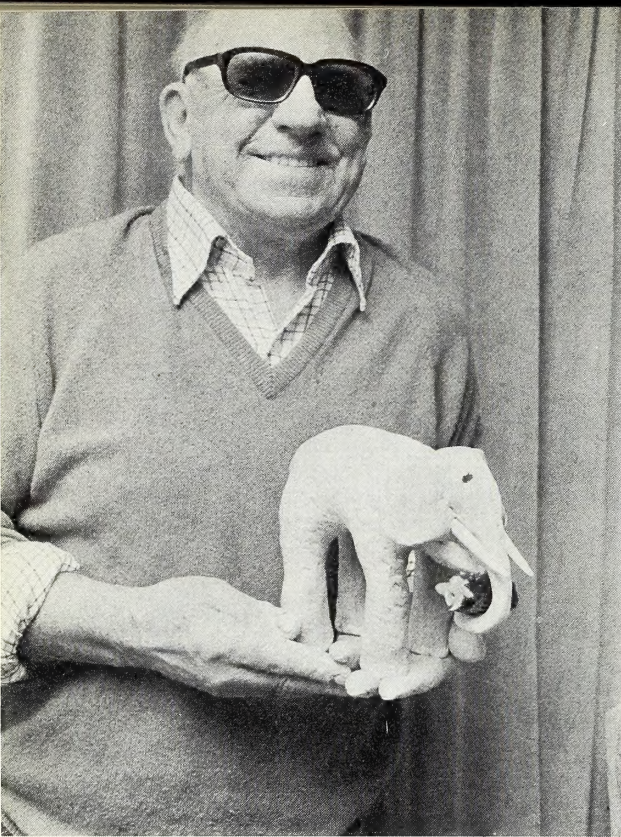
But the central character is old Goriot. This is the classic story of a father's unselfish love for his two worthless daughters whose folly and overweening vanity finally bring about his destruction.

Balzac's brilliant prose vividly brings to life the decadence and cruelty of the fashionable society of his day.



# ELEPHANT MAN

by David Castleton



*George Brooks holds a splendid and recent example from his collection of elephants.*

"Did you know that the elephant is the only animal that has four knees?" That is a strange question to be asked in the lounge of a bungalow overlooking the South Downs but, having met and talked to many St. Dunstaners about their interests and hobbies, nothing surprises me now.

It was George Brooks adding to my education this time, "You see an elephant doesn't run—it trundles. An elephant has four knees, all other animals have got bent back legs for jumping and springing but an elephant never jumps or springs—he trundles. The elephant, bless him, he's got four knees."

George was explaining to me his obsession with elephants—not just live elephants at second hand but clay ones at first hand. In his hand, in fact, for we were talking about his hobby of modelling in a special type of clay which needs no firing after shaping.

I asked him how long he had been modelling in clay: "I have been doing

this for fourteen months actually. My grand-daughter had some of this clay and she brought it here. I got a piece of it and started messing about with it. The first thing I made was an anvil because I was a blacksmith, I was apprenticed to an engineer's blacksmith and the first thing I thought of making was an anvil."

To George the clay he moulds is the metal he forged into shape in his work as a blacksmith, "I would probably have had tongs, an anvil, or a steam hammer but I am doing this now with my fingers as though I'd got a lump of hot metal in my hands and I'm drawing out the different parts, like the legs or whatever it is."

To judge by the many finished models of every kind arranged around his lounge: flowers, ships, lighthouses, all sorts of animals, George's visual memory must be very accurate. It is more than thirty years since he saw anything—since 1944 when he was wounded at Anzio serving with the Royal Engineers. I found it almost unbelievable. How does he do it?





*A representative collection of models.*

"By sense of touch and memory, of course. I use no tools whatsoever. The only thing that you can see here is this piece of wood. When I make an elephant, with the heavy weight, and I get to the legs, I rest it on this piece of wood otherwise it would collapse. I use no tools just my fingers. If I can do it—anyone can do it.

"I plan it, I think I'll make a ship or a lighthouse. I get this done in my head first and just get weaving, hoping that I get the right perspective. I've got to think about it a lot: Height, width and things like that but being blind is no obstacle—once you've seen all these things, they're always there in your memory. It may seem strange as I am absolutely, totally blacked out but I lift it up and 'look' at it. It somehow comes from the past when you get it up in front of you—you put your hand over like that, you seem to get a better perspective."

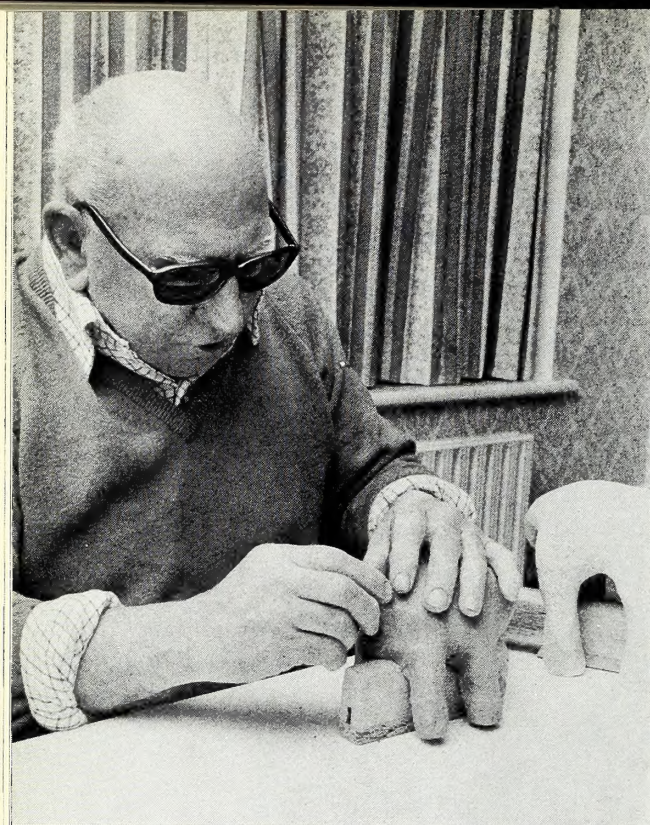
As a creative artist one might say that at present George is in his "elephant

period". "I had a piece of clay and I thought to myself well I'd like to make a little elephant. Somehow the elephant seemed to make itself and so I went elephant crazy. I could be called the elephant man. I think the elephant is a noble animal and I really like them. Whenever I get this clay I've just got to make an elephant."

It takes George just about two hours to make an elephant. Two hours of concentrated work as the ball of clay is transformed into the splendid shape and proportions. Lovingly George puts an individual twist to the animal's trunk, or shapes its ears. "Yes, it takes about two hours to get the whole shape of him but then you are titivating him every time you come and run your fingers over him and think that might be a bit better here or there."

George would not dream of selling any of his elephants, "I have had so much enjoyment from making them. To sell them just for money, I couldn't possibly





*Above: Using a wooden block to support the elephant's body.*

do it. I come in here, in this room, I put my hands on all these elephants. I know where they are. I can feel them. It's just as though they are real to me."

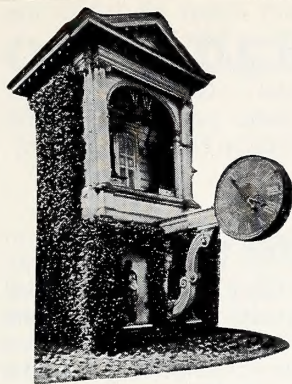
He would recommend his hobby to any blind person: "It's a relaxing thing and if you want a good hobby away from the normal run of things you usually make, baskets and so on, it keeps your mind occupied. When you've finished you've really got something that you can say, 'Well, I made that'. This is a creative art, I think, don't you?"

With no tools needed and 2 lbs. of clay costing less than £1—sufficient for one of George's large elephants or half a dozen small models—it would seem an ideal hobby to try. George's advice for the beginner is to choose something fairly solid with a simple outline for a first model, "Get the clay, pull off a lump, have an idea of something you want to make and you'll find that it will come out from your mind and form itself and from there on you just build on that for yourself. Just think of something and make it."

*Below: Mrs. Brooks paints the completed models and advises George during modelling.*







# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

## Troop Reunion

Many readers will remember **Norman Kershaw's** story of Operation Colossus in the October 1975 issue of the *Review*. This photograph from the *Manchester Evening News* shows Norman, wearing dark glasses, with surviving members of X troop and the R.A.F. crews who flew

them to the Tragino aqueduct, at a Reunion held on Saturday, 7th February, at the Swan Hotel, Bucklow Hill, Knutsford. The organiser of the Reunion found all but three of the members of X troop, writing more than 1,000 letters over four years.





## Brief Encounter

Lord Fraser used to say that the best public relations officers for St. Dunstan's were St. Dunstaners themselves and he would have been pleased to see a recent article in the *Southern Evening Echo*, headed "Brief Encounter on the 9.10 to London".

In it, the Echo's Assistant Editor, Arthur Smith, described how he sat opposite a blind man and his guide dog in the train...

"Then I noticed the badge on the man's jacket—St. Dunstan's... The blind man and I chatted throughout the ride to London... The man and his dog were travelling for a visit to St. Dunstan's. 'A wonderful organisation,' said the blind man, 'I owe everything to St. Dunstan's. They gave me hope. They trained me to be a telephone switchboard operator. I run an exchange at Bournemouth with 120 extensions. St. Dunstan's train people for all sorts of jobs.' He laughed and added: 'They have yet to turn out an air-pilot.'" At Waterloo, Arthur Smith hailed a taxi for the St. Dunstaner and his guide-dog, Daniel. "I waved goodbye. He did not wave back. I forgot that my friend for 70 minutes could not see me.

"I felt very humble and very lucky. Not once did the blind man utter one single

word of complaint about his lot or the troubled world about him."

120 extension board in Bournemouth? Guide Dog Daniel?—Got him? It was **Tommy Bice**, who so impressed the Echo's Assistant Editor. Nice one, Tommy.

## The Name's the Same

A new bowling club for blind players has been formed in Hull. It is called the Pearson Pioneer Bowling Club and with a name like that it is not surprising to find a St. Dunstaner is one of the moving spirits behind it. **Joe Nicol**, who is the club's Treasurer, tells me the inaugural meeting was held on March 6th. He is the only St. Dunstaner among ten totally blind and four semi-sighted members.

They also held their first practice on March 6th—the first time Joe had played bowls—at the Young People's Institute where there are indoor and outdoor greens. When the season gets started, their home green will be in Pearson Park. The name has local connections and is not associated with Sir Arthur. Nevertheless, says Joe, it is a happy coincidence. It is indeed, and we wish the Pearson Pioneers good bowling in Hull.

## OVINGDEAN NOTES

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February began happily and harmoniously, and ended with one of Escort Sister's disasters—but more of that later.

The "happy and harmonious" start was made by Tom Eales, who presented two programmes this month, "The Music of James Last" and "The Music of Frank Chacksfield", in his usual impeccable style. We have come to expect perfection as the normal standard in Tom's programmes, and we marvel that he is able to maintain it so unfailingly.

Mr. Michael Hayes brought us a splendid selection from his vast store of records, and presented a programme entitled, "Music Around the World". There was a Russian singer with an

unpronounceable name, and an unbelievable range from basso profundo to falsetto. He quite took away our breath... what it did to his we dread to think. But the most popular records were from the sound-tracks of Laurel and Hardy films... they were hilarious, and we laughed until we ached. Of course, some of us had only heard about Laurel and Hardy from our mothers. Naturally you believe us implicitly!

Although a few residents and staff succumbed to those nasty little germs, 'flu and colds were less rife than they might have been. However, they prevented a barber-shop quartet, splendidly named, "Four Men in a Bar", from coming



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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*Continued*

to entertain us, but we hope that they will be able to come in the near future. Miss Briant, of the V.A.D. staff, gallantly stepped into the breach, and played records of her choice, which were much enjoyed.

## **Save the West Pier**

You may remember that here in Brighton there is a flourishing "Save the West Pier" Campaign. Spike Milligan gave his services to entertain the public at Hove Town Hall, and all proceeds went to the Fund. Through the good offices of St. Dunstan Ken Revis, who is a very active participant in the campaign, we were offered tickets for the show. From all reports, it was certainly different!

There was a good range of plays at the Theatre Royal this month, including a musical version of Dickens' "Great Expectations". John Mills, Moira Lister and Lesley Ann Down, starred, and though John Mills was excellent, Moira Lister was sadly miscast, and Lesley Ann Down lacked the impact she made in "Upstairs, Downstairs". The Company's great strength was the excellence of the supporting cast, several of whom had fine voices and strong personalities. It was, therefore, a great pleasure to welcome a party of them to Ian Fraser House one afternoon—they had tea in the Lounge with us, and then treated us to the best concert we have enjoyed for a very long time. Joy Nicholls, who was such a well-known radio personality in the fifties, starring in "Take it from Here", sang "Glorious Mud" with all her old zest, and we joined in with a will. Kim Begley, an up-and-coming young singer, told some very funny jokes about his home town, Liverpool, and Austin Kent sang numbers from "Fiddler on the Roof" in a lovely rich bass-baritone voice. They were accompanied on the piano by the show's musical director, Mr. John Burrows, and his musicianship was a revelation. It was a very happy and entertaining afternoon, and we were

delighted to have with us friends from Pearson House, from the Brighton Club, and locally-resident St. Dunstaners.

## **Special Interest**

We have held two "special interest" weekends this month, first Chess and then Bridge. The Chess Instructional Weekend was again directed by our old and dear friend, Mr. R. Bonham. It was well attended, and we were delighted to welcome ten "beginners". The Bridge Congress was held the following weekend—those of us attending both of them had dreams of the Black Queen attacking the Knave of Hearts! The Bridge Congress was directed by Mr. G. Connell, ably assisted by Mrs. Connell and Mrs. Nora Field. The ladies taught the beginners, whilst the more experienced players waged unrelenting—though good-humoured—war upon each other. Accounts of both these successful weekends will be found elsewhere in this issue.

This month has seen the regular use of the Bowling Rink and the Rifle Range—both of which have provided much interest and enjoyment. Either one or the other is open on three afternoons each week—we are indeed fortunate to have such splendid facilities so readily available.

## **Confession**

And now . . . it's confession time! Escort Sister's Disaster (one of the more resounding ones) started with the best intentions. There was no Dome Variety on the last Tuesday in the month, but the Pavilion Theatre offered a "Country Music" night. In the mind's eye appeared Jim Reeves, with that lovely dark brown velvet voice; Slim Whitman; strumming guitars; check shirts and cowboy hats. And the reality? . . . Bare boards, iron chairs, a teach-in on English Folk Dancing, and the ultimate in rewards . . . a hot dog and a tin of Coke . . .

Anyone for tennis???



# CLUB NEWS

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## LONDON

All St. Dunstaners living in the London area should have received a letter and questionnaire from the Steering Committee looking into the possibility of re-organising the London Club, and I hope that they have completed and returned the questionnaire.

A meeting is to be held on Saturday, 10th April at 6 o'clock in the club rooms, with the intention of launching a new image London Club, and this will be followed by refreshments and a dance, at which we hope for a good attendance. Those who have not yet replied to our circular regarding this gathering should immediately get in touch with the Honorary Secretary of the Steering Committee at H.Q. so that we can make appropriate catering arrangements.

The winners of our Thursday Dominoes matches in February were:

5th February

Equal 1st     **R. Armstrong**  
                  **C. Hancock**

12th February

Equal 1st     **R. Armstrong**  
                  **R. Evans**

26th February

1st             **W. Miller**  
2nd             **J. Majchrowicz**

*W. MILLER*  
*Chairman*

## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

It was a happy coincidence that our Club Dance fell on St. Valentine's Day. Between seventy and eighty club members and friends filled the large room in the Annexe at Ian Fraser House and a very enjoyable evening was had by all. We were delighted to have our President, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, in our midst and during the evening our Chairman, Mr. Ted Frearson, had the pleasant duty of presenting her with a cyclamen plant and a Valentine card, a small token of the affection we all feel for her and for the help that she gives us in so many ways. The music was provided by Mr. Henry

Kerr and Mr. Phillip Barton and we are grateful to them for coming to our aid at such short notice. The Club Dances are proving to be very popular and a group has been booked to play for dancing for the rest of the year.

The Club Dance dates, as published in the February *Review*, have had to be altered owing to the fact that we have had to engage the services of new musicians. The new dates are 15th May, 12th June, 10th July, 14th August, 18th September, 16th October and 6th November.

We are delighted to welcome Joe Kennedy to our Club as an Honorary Member and we are very grateful for all the assistance he gives us on our Club afternoons, especially his help in running the Darts Competition etc.

## ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

All Club members outside the Brighton area please note that there is a Club meeting every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. in the Annexe, and anyone on holiday at Ian Fraser House is cordially invited to join in the entertainments.

## BOWLING CLUB REPORT

I am pleased to report that the bowling club is going from strength to strength. We have in the past had several matches at Ian Fraser House, which have been very popular with our friends visiting, and has also been a great source of satisfaction to the members of St. Dunstons Bowling Club. I would like to add a vote of thanks here to the officials and wives of the club who have done their utmost to make all these events a success.

We are now fast approaching the open season with many more matches in view than in previous years, and I feel sure that all members and wives etc., can look forward to a very happy and enjoyable season.

*T. FREARSON*  
*Chairman and Captain*



## BRIDGE SECTION

Our second pairs match was held on Saturday February 28th in the Annexe of Ian Fraser House. The winners were:

*North-South*

**A. Dodgson and Mrs. E. Dodgson**

*East-West*

**C. Walters and Mrs. V. Barker**

**Saturday, March 6th**

Results of the 3rd Individual are as follows:

A. Smith and F. Griffie	70
P. McCormack and A. Dodgson	67
W. Phillips and J. Padley	65
W. Lethbridge and R. Fullard	63
C. Walters and Miss B. Simon	59
W. Scott and W. Burnett	54

## Roedean School

Roedean School versus St. Dunstan's Brighton Bridge Club at Roedean School No. 3 House, Monday February 16th.

In a pleasant room with a blazing log fire, we were welcomed by our opponents. These were young ladies 15-17 years old, led by Miss M. Stenning, a former house mistress at Roedean. A most entertaining bridge match took place, the keen play of the young ladies being just outmatched by the experience of the St. Dunstaners.

Miss Gordon, the house mistress of No. 3 house, provided a delicious tea which was served to us by the young ladies. At the end of the match, Miss Stenning kindly presented a bottle of wine to the St. Dunstan's team.

*W. LETHBRIDGE*

## Fishing Section

On Friday, 14th February, a party of Club members left Newhaven aboard the "Pisces" all set for a good day's fishing. The weather forecast the previous day was not at all favourable and it was doubtful if the trip would take place, but as luck would have it the wind moderated overnight and all was well. We had a good day and amongst the various catches were some 2-3 lb. Channel Whiting, and the best fish of the day was a 15 lb. 7 oz. Cod caught by Bill Phillips. This is the heaviest that has been caught on a Club trip so far. There is an annual trophy to be won outright by the member who catches "the heaviest fish of the year".

Our fishing year runs from October, 1975 to September, 1976, so come on lads, see who can better this!

## Dominoes Aggregate, February 1976

<b>First</b>	<b>Mrs. Mudge</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>Mrs. Preedy</b>
<b>Equal third</b>	<b>R. Bickley</b>
	<b>W. Aldridge</b>
<b>Equal fourth</b>	<b>Mrs. H. Smith</b>
	<b>G. Hudson</b>

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.*

**Albert Charles Lamper**, of Brighton, Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's in February. He served with the R.A.F.V.R. from 1940 until 1946, and was a prisoner of war in Java from 1941 until the end of the Second World War. Despite ill-health he was able to continue working, for 37 years, with the Brighton Wholesale Co-operative Society. He is married, with one adult son.

## BRIDGE NOTES

The first London individual competition for 1976 was held on 7th February and the results were as follows:

J. Lynch and W. Allen	82
R. Armstrong and Miss V. Kemmish	72
J. Majchrowicz and J. Dickerson	68
R. Stanners and R. Goding	61
R. Evans and H. King	61
H. Meleson and W. Miller	47
P. Nuyens and L. Douglass	40

Results of the second individual competition, held on Saturday, 6th March, were:

L. Douglass and W. Miller	75
W. Allen and H. King	70
P. Nuyens and Miss V. Kemmish	68
J. Lynch and R. Armstrong	61
J. Dickerson and R. Goding	57
J. Majchrowicz and H. Meleson	47



## BRIDGE NOTES—continued

The Harrogate Bridge Week will take place this year from Saturday, 11th to Saturday, 18th September. The hotel tariff is as follows:

Single Room with full board    £38.50  
Double Room, per person       £35.00  
These prices do not include VAT

For those travelling by rail from London we have obtained from British Rail a special charge of £7.50 London-Harrogate return.

Will those wishing to attend please

let me know as soon as possible, and send in the appropriate railway fare, as the Dirlton Hotel is unable to hold firm provisional bookings after April 15th.

### St. Dunstan's v L.C.C.B.A. Masters

This match will be taking place at H.Q. on Saturday, 5th June. Will the captains of those teams of four taking part please let me have the names of the members of their respective teams by not later than May 15th.

P. NUYENS

Honorary Secretary

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Dennis John Freeman* of Coventry, are pleased to announce that their son Raymond was married to Linda Kelso on Saturday, February 14th at Christchurch, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

*Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Thomas Hermitage* of Northfleet, Kent, are pleased to announce the marriage of their granddaughter, Lynda Margaret Hughes, to Stewart Washington on 6th March, 1976, at Shorne Parish Church.

### Silver Weddings

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dadswell* of Perivale, Middlesex, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on December 26th, 1975.

*Mr. and Mrs. Michael Stacey* of Orton Longueville, near Peterborough, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 25th November, 1975. The occasion was marked by a family party given by their sons and daughters-in-law.

### Pearl Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Morris* of Ongar, Essex, who celebrated their Pearl Wedding on January 26th, 1976.

### Golden Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. George Broughton* of Alford, Lincolnshire, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 18th March, 1976.

### Diamond Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Tarry* of Saltdean, Sussex, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 31st March, 1976.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert Chritchlow* of Leicester, whose eleventh grandchild was born on 28th January; a daughter, Karen, for their son, James and his wife.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Minter* of Ruislip, Middlesex, on the birth of a third grandchild on 12th January; a son, Andrew, for their daughter Gillian and her husband.

### Great Grandparents

#### We warmly congratulate:

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hill* of Portishead, Nr. Bristol, on the birth of their second great grandchild, Zoe, born to their grand-daughter on 3rd January, 1976.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Owen* of Tony-pandy, Rhondda, on the birth of another great grand-daughter, Ceri Rosalyn, born on 14th November, 1975, to their grandson and his wife.



## Family News — *continued*

### Examination and Career Successes

#### We offer our congratulations to:

*Mr. Ernest Russell* of Leeds, who was awarded the Area Certificate of Appreciation of the Royal British Legion on February 14th, when the Certificate was presented to him by the Duke of Northumberland at the Royal British Legion's Northern Area Conference at the Royal Hotel, Harrogate.

Anne Minter, youngest daughter of St. Dunstaner *James Minter* of Ruislip,

Middlesex, who has passed her S.R.N. examination at University College Hospital, London.

### Deaths

#### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mr. Victor Charles Buck* of Patcham, on the death of his brother on 23rd January, 1976.

*Mr. James Coupland* of Preston, whose wife, Louisa, died on 4th March, 1976.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

#### **William Daniel Hopkins.** *Royal Air Force Service Police.*

William Daniel Hopkins of Luton, Cornwood, Devon, died on 26th February, aged 55.

He served as an A/Corporal in the Royal Air Force Service Police from 1940 until the end of 1946. He took part in the campaigns in the Western Desert but due to eye injuries was repatriated to the United Kingdom at the end of the war, after a period spent in Cairo.

He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in October, 1974. He was employed as a groundsman at a local Grammar School, and was a keen gardener, having had his own market garden at one time.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Olive Vera Hopkins, and a daughter, Mrs. Small.

whom he had previously worked as a Mine Captain. Later he returned to Tembani and began retraining as a physiotherapist. He continued his studies at the R.N.I.B. Physiotherapy School in London where he qualified. Thereafter he returned to South Africa and went into private practice in his home town Pretoria, where he built up a flourishing practice and had many distinguished patients.

Danie was the great great grandson of the famous and historic Boer leader, Commandant General Andries Pretorius. He was a great St. Dunstaner and a great South African, who will be much missed.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Hennie Pretorius, and a son and a daughter.

#### **Daniel Pieter Pretorius.** *4th South African Reconnaissance Unit*

Danie Pieter Pretorius, of Groot Plaas, Skeerpoort, Transvaal, died on Sunday, 29th February at the age of 57.

Daniel visited Britain on several occasions to represent St. Dunstan's (South Africa) at conferences and on the last occasion was South African representative at Lord Fraser's Thanksgiving Service in Westminster Abbey.

He was blinded by a sniper's bullet in 1940 whilst serving as an armoured car Commander in Abyssinia. After hospitalisation, he went to Tembani, the war-time training home in Cape Town, where he learned Braille, and trained as a telephone switchboard operator all in the space of four months. He then returned to the Transvaal and was re-employed by the Crown Mines for

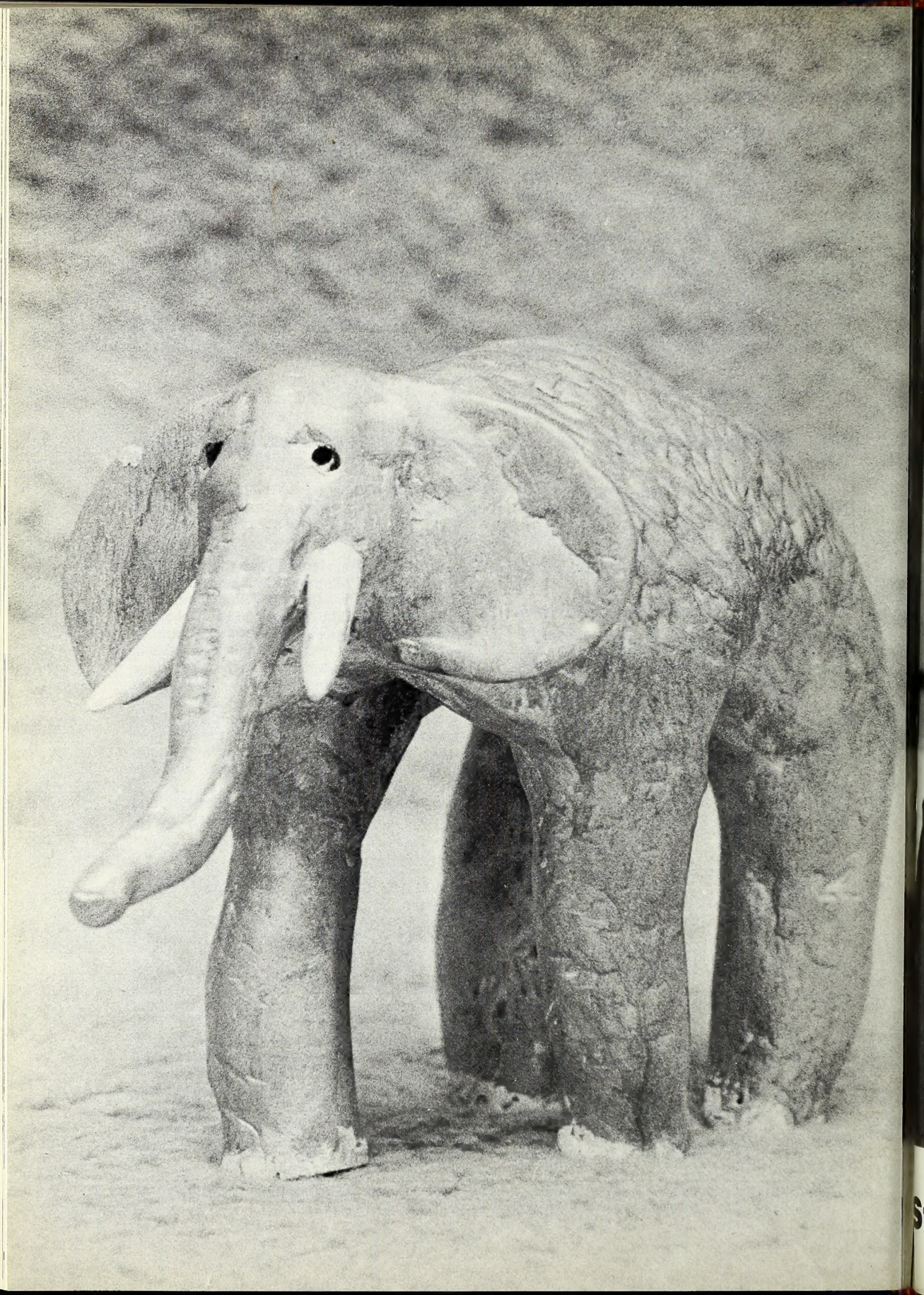
#### **John Herbert Underwood.** *King's Liverpool Regiment*

John Underwood, of Birstall, Yorks., died in hospital on the 25th February, 1976. He was 82 years of age.

He was commissioned and served in the First War and then became a businessman in China for some twenty years. He was a prisoner of the Japanese throughout the Second War, after which he returned to England. His sight ultimately failed as a result of mustard gas in 1918 and he joined St. Dunstan's in 1973. He had been in very poor health for many years, but remained at home and was cared for devotedly by his wife until his admission to hospital shortly before his death.

He leaves a widow and son and daughter, both of whom are married and living abroad.









**St Dunstons Review May 1976**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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10p MONTHLY

## REUNIONS

### SOUTHAMPTON

The first 1976 Reunion was held in the familiar setting of the Polygon Hotel, Southampton on Saturday, 27th March. A company of about 85 people including 34 St. Dunstaners—8 from the First World War and 26 from the Second World War or later—with their wives or escorts, and members of the staff, gathered for luncheon. Among them was the only lady St. Dunstaner at this reunion, Mrs. Alice Gimbrere. The Welfare Visitor responsible for the arrangements was Mrs. Lyall.

Dr. Donald Hopewell presided over the occasion and, after a silent toast to the memory of Sir Arthur Pearson, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale and Mr. Nigel Pearson, he made a speech of welcome from the Council.

He expressed his pleasure at returning to this reunion after twenty years. It was a long time since St. Dunstan's was founded and many thousands of men and women had become members of the family, he said. "Today there are 353 First World War St. Dunstaners in England, 841 Second War and a few post-war, so all together there are still 1194 living in Britain, quite apart from those several hundred who live overseas.

"So our family is inevitably getting smaller but it is not getting less influential. I think that the work St. Dunstan's is doing now is almost more important than it has ever done in the past. A very great part of St. Dunstan's work today is to help older members of our family to live their lives in happiness, as well as to help the younger ones to earn their living with success."

Dr. Hopewell mentioned the names of staff members present and referred to Mr. D. W. Ferguson, retired, and Mrs. M. McLeod, a friend and helper in the organisation of the Lee-on-Solent Camp.

He expressed the disappointment of everyone that Mrs. A. Spurway, M.B.E., was unable to attend.

"This is rather an auspicious occasion today", Dr. Hopewell continued, "because Mr. and Mrs. Arnold are celebrating their Golden Wedding and we also have with us one new boy, Percy Peterson of Waterlooville, I know you will give him a hearty welcome into the family."

### Message from Lady Fraser

Dr. Hopewell brought a message from Lady Fraser and undertook to return the greetings of St. Dunstaners at the reunion. He also referred to Miss Rogers' forthcoming retirement, as a result of which this was her last Southampton Reunion in office: "I know how well she has worked for us for years, how devotedly she has served you all and how infinitely well she has earned her retirement and her rest. In that retirement we wish her happiness, good health and success."

Dr. Hopewell concluded: "I hope I shall have the privilege of meeting you again in the not too distant future. In the meantime, I will give you all my best wishes for your health and your happiness during the coming year and may next year bring to you and to our country a new and great success and peace."

After Mr. Wills had spoken, he introduced Philip Duffee, to propose the vote of thanks. Saying that he, himself, was a post-war St. Dunstaner, Philip Duffee hoped that he could speak for all generations of St. Dunstaners, "When I say we thank you very much, Dr. Hopewell, for your remarks, we thank you too for the work you have put in as a Member of the Council, because we know that in these

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**COVER PICTURE:** Ted Frearson wears the new badge of office for the Chairman of the Brighton Sports and Social Club, presented in memory of the late Frank Rhodes.





*At the Southampton Reunion, Dr. Hopewell (centre) congratulates Ethel and Leonard Arnold on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.*

difficult times in which we live it must cause you many headaches trying to work out how best to keep this ship floating and heading in the right direction.

"Thank you very much and will you convey our thanks to the other Members of the Council and would you carry our love to Lady Fraser."

After lunch there was dancing to the music of Brian Gorman at the piano until tea, and the prize draw concluded a most enjoyable opening to the Reunion season.

## IPSWICH

St. Dunstaners and their escorts arriving at the Copdock International Hotel on Thursday, 1st April for the Ipswich Reunion found television lights and a camera crew installed in the foyer. It was not an April Fool joke, a real B.B.C. crew from their Norwich studios, under Tony Scase had come along to film an item which was shown later that day on the "Look East" programme.

Altogether about 55 people attended, guests, staff members, escorts and wives and, most important, St. Dunstaners. There were 10 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 15 from the Second, including Mrs. Brenda Bates, the only lady St. Dunstaner at the Reunion.

Sir James Pitman was the Member of Council presiding and he began by proposing the silent toast.

"Those words are very moving", he continued, "and I was very pleased to learn that they had been agreed by Lady Fraser, our Vice-President, herself. Even more moving than the words and the memory of those who have initiated what St. Dunstan's is, is that the call which brought them to action and which, in the first place, is the common factor amongst all St. Dunstaners, blindness, has moved the public to subscribe so generously to enable St. Dunstan's to do what it has done."

Sir James gave a special welcome to St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion: Reginald Chapman, Cambridge,





*At the Ipswich Reunion, Brenda Bates is interviewed by Tony Scafe for BBC Television.*

Rupert Firman, Lowestoft and Alfred Hurley of Clacton. He also mentioned Mrs. Brenda Bates, Clacton, Frank Bolero, Norwich, Hugh Ellis, West Mersea and Will Rathmell, Holland-on-Sea.

### **State of St. Dunstan's**

Saying he was not giving a report on the state of the nation but one on the state of St. Dunstan's, Sir James gave the statistics of St. Dunstaners in Britain and overseas and then turned to the "state of East Anglia"; of a total of 25, "ten St. Dunstaners have retired, seven follow hobby occupations, five follow gardening and take an interest in their greenhouses, three are fully employed, one as a telephonist, one as a smallholder and one in basketmaking".

Sir James then turned to the staff at the Reunion, mentioning all by name including especially Mrs. Adkins, the welfare visitor responsible for all the arrangements, who had, in addition, baked a special cake, "It is full of the most lovely sugar and all the things most good and nice."

"Well, we have a lot more to do and since this is April Fool's Day and since

we've had what I thought was an extremely good April Fool as our sweet today, I think I should bring this to an end and wish this Reunion and the East Anglians every good wish and every St. Dunstaner around the world, the very best that we have!"

### **Brenda Bates**

Replying for St. Dunstaners, Brenda Bates said: "We welcome Sir James Pitman as our guest and we hope he enjoys his day. I would also like to say thank you very much to the staff who organised such a wonderful Reunion. There is such a lot of hard work that goes into it and, of course, not least the Copdock, they always give us such a wonderful menu and the staff are all very kind and patient."

Brenda reassured the male St. Dunstaners in her audience that her speech was not a sign that Women's Lib had arrived in East Anglia: "It's just that I've managed to hide in a little corner for about 17 years and suddenly Mrs. Adkins pounced on me." She concluded by wishing everyone an enjoyable day and thanking them for listening.



Mr. Wills conveyed Miss Mosley's apologies for her absence from the Reunion due to her mother's illness and then announced that the Copdock's chef, Bruce Ketley, having produced a splendid meal, would entertain on the guitar with the help of Haig Joyce at the piano. Another feature of the afternoon's entertainment was Reginald Chapman's monologue, "Tale of the Yukon".

The Reunion ended with tea and the prize draw.

## BIRMINGHAM

About 95 persons met together for this Reunion, held at the Albany Hotel on Saturday, 3rd April. They included three St. Dunstaners from the First World War, thirty-four from the Second World War, and five post-war entries. Mrs. Spurway was again an honoured guest and two widows of St. Dunstaners who had recently died, Mrs. Alloway and Mrs. Androlia, were also present.

The arrangements were made by Miss Newbold, Welfare Visitor responsible, and during the afternoon Richard Manning's band played for dancing.

Presiding at the luncheon, Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan, Hon. Treasurer and Member of St. Dunstan's Council, who was accompanied by his wife, proposed the silent toast and then gave a most interesting talk about the visit which he and Mrs. Delmar-Morgan had paid the previous year to Australia and New Zealand, where they had attended the Triennial Reunion of St. Dunstaners in New Zealand held at Palmerston North. A summary of this visit was contained in the April, 1975 *Review*.

After welcoming everyone present, Mr. Delmar-Morgan mentioned that he and his wife had met St. Dunstaners in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney on their way to New Zealand. "A trip to the Antipodes was really the occasion of considerable pleasure", he said, adding "I think it is true to say that the loyalty and patriotism shown to Britain by St. Dunstaners in Australia and New Zealand is amazing."

Whilst in Sydney, said Mr. Delmar-Morgan, a strike of power-workers almost brought the city to boiling point. "You must imagine, therefore, the Returned



*The Copdock Hotel's singing chef, Bruce Ketley, has the help of St. Dunstaners: Alfred Waters, Allan Ivor Gwyn, Percy Stubbs and Ronald Homewood. At the piano is Haig Joyce.*

Servicemen's League Club in Sydney's western suburbs, where we were entertained by the New South Wales representatives. It had been a very hot day, there had been no cooling at all and quite frankly it was a very uncomfortable temperature. Nevertheless, I am happy to report that the St. Dunstaners' spirits never flagged and we as their guests made every endeavour to assist them in their efforts to drink the club dry. It was, after all, the only way of avoiding total evaporation." A St. Dunstaner, intervening, "Any excuse". Mr. Delmar-Morgan: "Yes, any excuse".

At Perth, Mr. and Mrs. Delmar-Morgan were entertained at a tea-house in a park overlooking the city, from which there was a most beautiful view.

"Melbourne, which is the city that my wife and I know best, is the home of the Australian Guide Dogs, and the State St. Dunstan's organisation now provides



## BIRMINGHAM REUNION

—continued

both the National President and the National Secretary of St. Dunstan's Australia."

Touching upon the geological differences between Australia and New Zealand, Mr. Delmar-Morgan reminded his listeners that New Zealand lies along one of the fault lines of the earth's crust and has a number of active volcanoes which descend into boiling mud pools. "A large proportion of electricity generated in New Zealand comes from hydro-electric schemes or from geo-thermal installations with natural steam driving turbo-generators." He added that although the surface area of New Zealand is about the same as that of the United Kingdom, New Zealand has only 2,750,000 inhabitants.

### Triennial Reunion

The New Zealand Triennial Reunion, said Mr. Delmar-Morgan, was a remarkable family gathering. At a Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph on Sunday morning, Stuart Craig, a Second World War St. Dunstaner, sounded the Last Post. "And, in the stillness of the morning, the sound of his trumpet floated high over the houses and out to the mountain ranges beyond. It was a very moving experience."

Mr. Wills, St. Dunstan's Secretary, also welcomed the company and brought a special message from Miss Mosley, the Welfare Superintendent, North, who was unable to attend the Reunion because of her mother's illness. He introduced Douglas Cashmore, Bromsgrove who gave the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners.

After thanking Mr. Delmar-Morgan and Mr. Wills for their speeches, Douglas Cashmore thanked St. Dunstan's for everything that had been done over the years and would continue to be done in the future. "May I also say welcome," he said, "to the people who are here today, helpers and visitors. Mrs. Spurway we are very, very pleased to see, and other people who have come along, and we thank the hotel for an excellent meal. I would like to thank Miss Newbold for all

the arrangements she has made, very, very good indeed."

"Before I sit down we thank most sincerely one group of ladies who we rely on not once a year, but all and every day of the year and those are our wives."

"It is very sad to see our numbers diminishing and for some reason or other, as you will have noticed probably in the Midland Club Notes, over a period of time we seem to have finished on a note of sadness. Our Chairman held a silence at the beginning of his speech, in which he mentioned Lord Fraser and Sir Arthur Pearson and Mr. Nigel Pearson, but we must remember our own St. Dunstaners, in fact our own Club members. There are only a small group of us in the Midland Club, but we are always asking for new members. We get together here once a year, and it is very nice to get together and have a chat. It is also very nice to get together more often—but, unfortunately, we have once again been hit by a sadness in the sudden death of our Club member, Stan Southall, who many of you knew and I know you are all with me when I send our sincere sympathy to his wife. I ask that more St. Dunstaners would give their support to the Midland Club. We cannot give the facilities that you would get at the Brighton Club, you can't expect it, but I can assure you that although our Club meetings are probably rather quiet, we have a darned good time when we go out, and we go out two or three times a year on outings etc.—and every St. Dunstaner who comes along to one of our meetings is thoroughly welcome".

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### CHAPEL GIFT

The family of the late Frank Rhodes has given a lectern edition of the New English Bible to the Chapel at Ian Fraser House as a memorial to our St. Dunstaner. Elsewhere in this issue, the presentation of a badge of office for the Chairman of the Brighton Club is also reported.

These gifts are particularly appropriate because Frank Rhodes was a regular worshipper at the Chapel, coming from his home in Ovingdean, and Founder of the Brighton Club.





*Mrs. Jean Campbell speaks after making the presentation to Ted Frearson.*

## PRESENTATIONS AT THE BRIGHTON SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The memory of a much loved St. Dunstaner was honoured on Saturday, 3rd April, when a new badge of office was presented for the use of the Chairman of the Brighton Club. The badge is inscribed on the reverse: "Brighton Sports and Social Club 1975, in memory of Frank Rhodes, who founded the first Brighton Club in 1948. Given by his family."

St. Dunstan's Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme and Mrs. Garnett-Orme, with Col. Sir Mike Ansell, our Vice-Chairman, were in the new south annexe of Ian Fraser House, when Mrs. Jean Campbell, Frank's daughter, presented the badge to the current Chairman, Ted Frearson.

The insignia, designed by a Brighton goldsmith, Geoffrey Holden, bears the St. Dunstan's badge on a textured ground of gilded bronze. It hangs on a ribbon in the colours of the three services. The photograph on the front cover of this issue gives a good idea of the strength of the design but, unfortunately, not of the rich colours.

There were two other presentations, both of them trophies: a rose bowl from the Territorial Army, presented in memory of the late Joe Walch, a founder member of the original Club and Vice-Chairman, and a cup presented by the Club's President, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, M.B.E., T.D., J.P.

Mrs. Dacre also informed the *Review* that Lord Rupert Nevill, J.P., D.L., Treasurer to H.R.H. Prince Philip's Household and Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Sussex has graciously agreed to become Patron of the Club, but on the strict understanding that, because of his manifold duties, he cannot attend functions.

## THE POOL

by Thomas Bradley

The sunlight overflows the dark,  
And night dissolves to shape the day;  
To change monotony of grey,  
Transforming tone to colour.

The pool was still as polished glass,  
The surface never blinked an eye;  
Veiled in mist the ghostly trees;  
The alders darkly brooding.

The roseate blushes through the wood  
Cast feathered shadows 'cross the pool,  
And lit, in sparkling spectrum tints  
The waiting lilies opening hearts.

Light-awakened sounds steal out  
From reed-beds wrest from slumber;  
Harsh clacking calls across the mere,  
From busy water-hen and coot.

I love the peace of pools so still.  
A peace which smiles at fear;  
When joyous bird-song charms the ear,  
And silent sailing swan the eye.

When dove to dove calls tender love,  
And night marauders steal away,  
What courage comes with new-born day!  
How could we doubt its stay?

## LAST CHANCE

This is our last reminder for applications for Derby Sweepstake Tickets. The closing date is Wednesday, 19th May, so get those stamped addressed envelopes in the post with your cheques or postal orders. The winning ticket will cost no more than the "also rans", 20p.

St. Dunstaners only, please, apply  
The Editor, D.S.S. Dept.,  
191 Old Marylebone Road,  
London NW1 5QN.

Draw: London Club, Thursday, 27th May.

All those drawing a horse will be notified.



## GB3STD Calling CQ VK

During the inaugural meeting of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society, 19th-21st March, the above call to Australia produced two replies. One from an ex-resident of Brighton, and the other from an ex-resident of Saltdean! It's a small world.

On parade were eight qualified amateurs and six shortwave listeners. The equipment used was the Swan S200 Transceiver, on loan from Terry Edwards (Radio Shack Ltd.). Thank you Terry for letting us use this very fine piece of equipment.

A talk on aerials given by R. L. A. Borrow G3ZTK, was most instructive and informative. From a lifetime's experience in the radio field, Len let us have a glimpse into the technique of dealing with aerials which was truly fascinating. Thank you Len, do come again.

Our gratitude to Tom Gaygan's XYL (Audrey) and harmonic (Mary) for taking on so readily the job of logging and QSL managers. You lucky man, Tom.

R.A.I.B.C. representative, Con M. Scarrot, was again present with his very ready help. Thank you Con.

Thanks must also go to Mr. Norman French (Liaison Officer) for setting up the

equipment and giving of his valuable time.

Personally I feel that this was a most successful meeting, with much enthusiasm displayed. Let's keep up the good work and have as many as possible attend our next meetings: 2nd-4th July and 24th-26th September. Will all those wishing to attend please let Miss Bridger at Headquarters know direct at least four weeks prior to the date of meeting.

Before going QRT, grateful thanks must go to Commandant, Matron, and all staff at Ian Fraser House for the efficient and kindly way they looked after us.

CUAGN.

*Duncan Sutherland G4 DJI*

Amateur Radio Terms and Abbreviations used in text:

<b>CQ</b>	General call to all stations
<b>CUAGN</b>	See you again
<b>GB3STD</b>	Call sign of St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society
<b>Harmonic</b>	Son or daughter
<b>QRT</b>	Closing down
<b>QSL</b>	Confirming contact
<b>R.A.I.B.C.</b>	Radio Amateur Invalid and Bedfast Club
<b>SWL</b>	Short Wave Listener
<b>VK</b>	Australia
<b>XYL</b>	Ex Young Lady—wife

### HINTS ON PACKING PARCELS

The Men's Supplies Department tell us that they have recently received several parcels, the contents of which arrived damaged, and thought that readers might perhaps like to have a few hints:

For anything other than soft and unbreakable articles, it is important to use a rigid box which is strong enough to protect the contents from the weight of other mail. The box should be large enough to allow you to pack plenty of cushioning material round the contents on all sides. Crushed newspapers, corrugated cardboard, sawdust, foamed plastics such as polystyrene, and wood wool are all good for this. Use enough to prevent the contents moving about.

### Radio Sets

The manufacturer's packing is not designed for sending by post. A rigid outer box should also be used. Sufficient

soft packing should be used so that no movement is possible.

### SPORTS WEEKEND JUNE 19/20th

All St. Dunstan's sportsmen anticipating taking part in this year's annual sports, should make application to me at Ian Fraser House for entry form and details, **not later than May 14th.**

*JOCK CARNOCHAN*  
*Sports Organiser*

### LADY MACKENZIE

We regret to announce the death in Auckland on the 28th March, 1976, of Lady Mackenzie, widow of Sir Clutha Mackenzie, the New Zealand St. Dunstaner who throughout his life played a leading role in blind welfare in many parts of the world. First World War St. Dunstaners will remember Lady Mackenzie as a V.A.D., Miss Doris Sawyer.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Arthur Dilks** of Bexhill-on-Sea, joined St. Dunstan's in March. He enlisted in the Territorial Army in 1936, served throughout the Second World War and was discharged at the end of 1945. He then re-enlisted in 1951 in the Army Catering Corps and was a Warrant Officer at his discharge in April, 1965. He is employed in the catering trade and is married with a family of three.

**Alfred Samuel Hurley** of Clacton-on-Sea, who joined St. Dunstan's in March. He served as a driver mechanic with the R.A.S.C. in the Second World War and is a widower, with one adult daughter.

**Colonel David Henry Lewis, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., M.A., F.I.Mech.E.,** of Much Wenlock, Shropshire, joined St. Dunstan's in March. He served with the Royal Artillery throughout the Second World War and for many years in the Territorial Army before and after the War. He is married with two adult daughters.

**Lewis Maurice Murrell** of Minehead, Somerset, joined St. Dunstan's in March. After serving in the Territorials, he transferred to the Royal Artillery as a Gunner at the outbreak of the Second World War. He was taken prisoner in the Far East. After the war, Mr. Murrell and his wife ran a general store in Minehead until 1971 when he retired. They have one son, who is also married.

**George Nolan** of Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, joined St. Dunstan's in March. He served as a Gunner in the Royal Artillery 25th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment during the Second World War, and is married with three adult children.

**George William Pullen** of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, joined St. Dunstan's in March. He served in the Essex Regiment during the First World War and was wounded at the Dardanelles. He is married.

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1086*

**Journey Into the Mind's Eye**

by Lesley Blanch

*Read by Carol Marsh*

*Reading Time 19¼ hours*

As a little girl living in middle-class suburbia, the writer came under the spell of *The Traveller*, a strange and mysterious Tartar visitor to the house. He beguiled her with exciting stories of Mongols and Tartar hordes, sent her exotic gifts from the plains of Central Asia.

Under his influence she soon developed into an obsessive Russophile. At an age when her classmates were reading "The Girl's Friend" she was devouring Russian history. Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, Pushkin and Gogol were her familiars. And always, in her mind's eye, was that enchanted journey she would one day make on "The Trans-Sib."

But it was to be many years before she was able to make the trip. By that time the barbaric splendour of Tsarist Russia had given way to the functional austerity of the U.S.S.R.

But she was not disappointed. She still made "the journey into the mind's eye" and to anyone to whom Leningrad is still St. Petersburg, and the Pushkin museum a holy shrine, all things are possible.

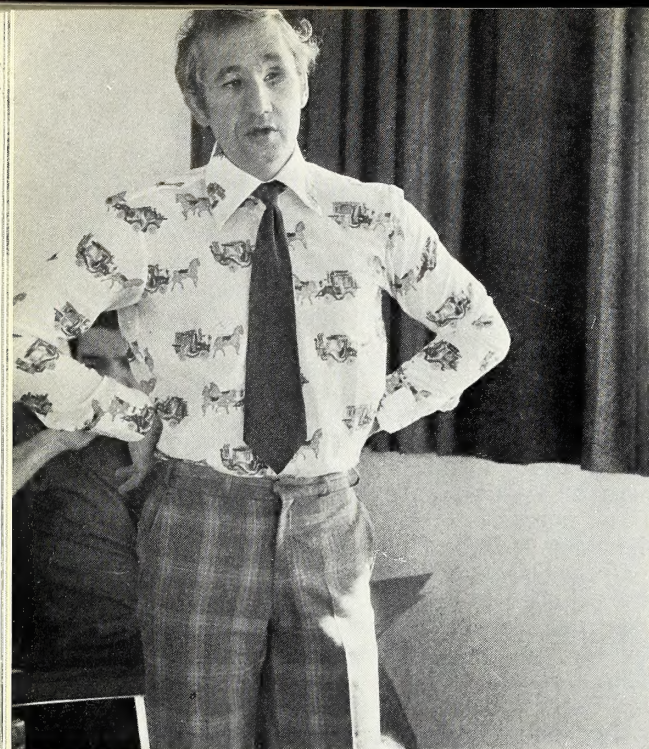
A very readable book—if a little over-long. But I found the constant use of Russian words for everyday prosaic objects somewhat irritating and confusing.

## BRIDGE NOTES

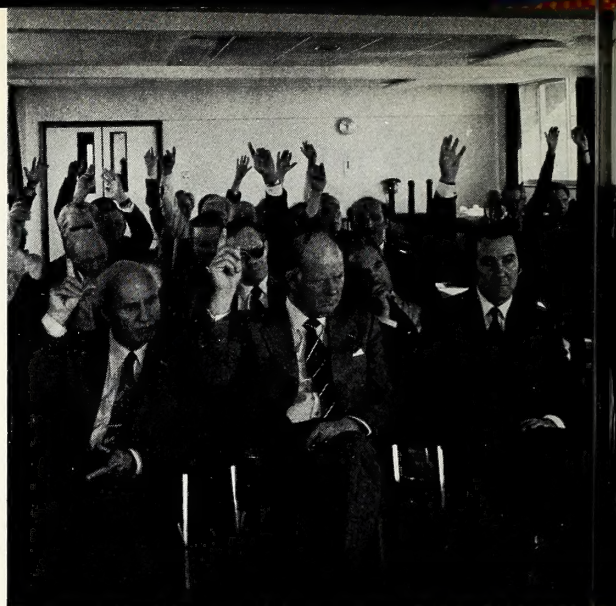
The third London individual competition was held on 10th April, and the results were as follows:

R. Goding and M. Tybinski	76
Mrs. V. Delaney and L. Douglass	68
W. Allen and R. Armstrong	67
J. Lynch and H. King	65
Miss V. Kemmish and F. Dickerson	64
W. Miller and J. Carney	57
P. Nuyens and H. Meleson	57
A. Caldwell and J. Majchrowicz	50





*Vice-Chairman, Ted Bunting, makes a point during the Annual General Meeting.*



## PHYSIOTHERAPY CONFERENCE

by Ted Bunting

On the weekend of 3rd and 4th April, the annual conference of St. Dunstan's physiotherapists was held at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean.

Harry Foster, Chairman of the Physiotherapy Advisory Committee can always have the satisfaction of having been the chairman at one of the most successful conferences ever.

The weekend programme began on Saturday morning with the Annual General Meeting and one lecture. There were two further lectures in the afternoon, and a dinner-dance in the evening. On Sunday morning a fourth lecture and a few words from the Chairman brought the conference to a close.

The able chairmanship of Harry Foster was a significant contributing factor to the success of the weekend. After opening the A.G.M. and expressing a particularly warm welcome to our President, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, he delivered the annual report, making sure by his comments that a lively discussion period would follow. His tactics were duly rewarded, and he had need of his skill in order to keep the time-table on schedule.

He expressed the thanks of the members for the help given throughout the year by the Publicity Department, received the unanimous approval of all present for having arranged for a vase of pink carnations to be sent to Lady Fraser on behalf of the conference, invited an explanation from our Secretary, Mr. R. Priestley, of the high cost of Christmas novelties, and steered a steady course through such topics as the Percy Way Memorial Library, the world conference of physiotherapy to be held in Tel Aviv in 1978, and the progress of the new "North London School of Physiotherapy for the Visually Handicapped", as well as arranging for the comforts fund to be augmented by a "whip round". In addition to all this he introduced Mr. Lloyd of the Estate Department, who had kindly agreed to be present to give an explanation of the "fair rents" policy.

Harry Foster was also re-elected onto the P.A.C. together with Charles Stafford and Gordon Smith.

The conference was also fortunate in having as lecturers four men who were not only experts in their own fields, and whose subjects were of great interest to





## CONFERENCE

our members, but were also excellent speakers. Their great enthusiasm for their subjects compelled the attention of their listeners. They were: Mr. D. L. Evans, F.R.C.S., who spoke on "Joint replacements and their management"; Mr. J. D. Stamatakis, F.R.C.S., on "Vascular disease with special reference to deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism"; Mr. A. Murray, M.S.R.G., on "Cardiac revival and rehabilitation"; and Mr. D. P. G. Teager, M.C.S.P., Dip.TP., who took as his subject, "Current trends in Physiotherapy training". Each of these gentlemen was warmly congratulated on the superb quality of his lecture, and rightly so, but perhaps the greatest congratulation of all should go to Secretary, Mr. R. Priestley, who managed, goodness knows how, to locate each of these speakers, persuade him to come, and arrange for him to be in the right place at the right time.

Yet another factor contributing to the excellence of the weekend was the success of the dinner-dance on the Saturday evening at which our principal guest was Col. Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L., of show-jumping



*Harry Foster, in the Chair, addresses the A.G.M. Also in the picture are Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme and Mr. Ron Priestley.*

fame, and, of course, St. Dunstan's Vice-Chairman. Presiding was Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and in addition we were delighted to have with us Mrs. Garnett-Orme, Commandant and Matron, St. Dunstan's padre, Mr. and Mrs. C. Lawrence from Broadhurst Gardens, Mr. J. Carnochan, the sports officer, and also the wives of many of our members.

Mr. Garnett-Orme said he didn't have to make a speech. This was his second Physiotherapy Conference and he had enjoyed both, especially the lecture in the morning by Mr. Evans. He told the physiotherapists that Lady Fraser had telephoned and asked him to say how much she missed the meetings and the personal contact. The flowers were the best she had ever had. He then introduced Harry Foster, who proposed a toast to the guests, Col. Sir Michael Ansell, who responded; and I proposed a toast to St. Dunstan's to which Matron responded on behalf of St. Dunstan's staff.

The success of the conference was enhanced by the fact that it was held in Ian Fraser House, since each member can always feel very much at home there. There is always someone available with



an understanding of his special difficulties to offer willing assistance when it might be necessary, and this makes for a happy and carefree atmosphere. I hope that every member of the staff at Ovingdean will read this in order that they might know, if ever they were in doubt, that they played a vital role in the success of this conference.

Although it has not been my intention to attempt to place the above observations in any order of merit, my final point must be far and away the most important factor in the success of the weekend. I refer, of course, to the presence of the members themselves. The 54 physiotherapists attending the 1976 conference must have had a combined experience of in excess of 1,300 years, and yet their enthusiasm was as great as ever. The chance to meet again, strengthen bonds of friendship, exchange ideas and advice, describe successes, recall past exploits and—dare I say it?—swap lies about surtax payments, was the essential ingredient which makes St. Dunstan's such a unique association, and which made this 1976 conference the great success it so clearly was.

## RATE REBATES AND RENT ALLOWANCES

It has come to our notice that a number of District Councils are exercising their discretionary powers under the Housing Finance Act, 1972 to disregard the whole of a tenant's War Pension instead of the statutory £4.00 when considering their eligibility for the above.

St. Dunstaners are therefore advised:

(a) if not in full employment to apply to the District Council for a rate rebate:

(b) if they are tenants paying more than a nominal rent, to apply for a rent allowance.

Application forms can be obtained from the District Council offices and St. Dunstaners requiring assistance to complete them, should get in touch with their local Estate Department Surveyor or with Mr. Peter Matthews at Headquarters.

Many widows of St. Dunstaners may also qualify for rate rebates and rent allowances and if they have not already done so, are advised to make application.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From George Fallowfield, Worthing, Sussex**

I enjoyed the story about George Brooks and the elephants and wondered if you would like another story about elephants! It happened about 1908 at either Camden Town or Kentish Town. The circus was going along the middle of the road with the elephants left, right, left, right when a philanthropic baker came to his shop door holding out a large bun, and an elephant went and took it, so he got another and other elephants followed for a bun, and then one huge elephant went through the pavement into the cellar! They got a Railway Company to send a breakdown gang with a crane capable of lifting said animal and the circus elephant man went down into the cellar to cheer up the elephant while the breakdown gang worked putting wide straps round the cramped beast, and when the crane started to work and pull the poor elephant through the narrow gap it had left, it

made a terrible noise that scared people watching, but finally they hoisted the elephant and set it gently down on the road once more!

But it did not end there, because the local council sued the circus for damages, and the circus blamed the baker. The elephants only got a bun, but the lawyers had a fine feast out of it!

**From Granville Waterworth, Coventry**

I wish to make a tribute to the memory of Stan Southall. I met him many times at the Birmingham Club, Birmingham reunions and especially on the train travelling back and forwards to the camp at HMS *Daedalus*. I was a member of his sports team which he captained as The Southall Stompers when we won in 1974. He always had a cheery word and a friendly smile in spite of his disabilities, he was a true sportsman and will be greatly missed by all campers at HMS *Daedalus*.



# IT'S ABILITY THAT COUNTS ← Film

by Jimmy Wright

Whilst I was attending the Annual National Sports Competitions for the Disabled at Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium in October, 1971, as a member of the St. Dunstan's team, Mrs. Spurway spoke of the need for a film about sport for the multi-disabled. The British Sports Association for the Disabled had one or two films concerned with wheel-chair sports, but no film existed covering the four categories of sport for the disabled for which there were internationally agreed rules, namely, paralysed, blind, amputees, and cerebral palsy.

Shortly after that I began making enquiries to find a national manufacturing company to sponsor such a film. I made numerous enquiries without success, mainly on account of the growing economic difficulties that were beginning to confront us at that time and in the autumn of 1973, I suggested to Sir Ludwig Guttman, the President and

*Bill Griffiths, seen here competing in the walk at Lee-on-Solent, is one of the St. Dunstan's athletes shown in Jimmy's film.*



Chairman of B.S.A.D., that we set up a Film Appeal Fund for the purpose of raising the necessary finance for the production. This was agreed and the fund set up, and by the spring of 1974, sufficient cash had been raised to commence the research, scripting, and location planning and by the summer funds had reached a level which enabled us to commence the shooting at the various schools for the disabled, as well as a number of the major sports fixtures organised by B.S.A.D., which included the first ever international sports competitions for the multi-disabled, held at Stoke Mandeville in 1974.

Our shooting programme thus completed, it was a question of waiting until the spring of the following year before the post-production work could begin, when the remainder of the necessary finance had been donated.

The film was at last completed, and approved by Sir Ludwig in August last year, and received its first public showing in the City of London on 12th February last, with our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, accompanied by his wife, among those present. Copies of *It's Ability that Counts* can be obtained on hire from B.S.A.D., Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium, Harvey Road, Aylesbury, Bucks.

## Television

From the outset of my involvement in the B.S.A.D. film, I had been of the opinion that it would be an eminently suitable subject for television and I have almost completed an amended version which has been accepted for transmission by Thames Television. I also had the feeling that if I could obtain H.R.H. Prince Philip's agreement to associate himself with the film, this would add tremendous weight when endeavouring to secure other TV showings in the United Kingdom, as well as overseas. I showed the film to Prince Philip's Equerry, Major Henry Hugh-Smith, himself disabled in Northern Ireland, having lost a hand, and the following morning I



was absolutely thrilled when he telephoned me to say that H.R.H. had agreed to add a foreword to my film.

On March 3rd, I went to Buckingham Palace, along with Arnold Behr, who directed the film, Freddie Young, the famous lighting cameraman, who donated his services for the shooting at the Palace and with whom I had first worked in 1940, as the most junior member of the camera crew, that of clapper/loader. Freddie has been responsible for so many award winning films, such as *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Dr. Zhivago*, *The Battle of Britain*, etc. We were shown the Regency Room, which I believe is the room which is sometimes used by Her Majesty the Queen for her television Christmas message, a lovely room decorated in shades of green and ideal for our filming.

I was advised that Prince Philip could be available for the filming on Tuesday, 9th March, at 16.00 hours, for between 30-45 minutes. Bearing in mind that the Duke of Edinburgh could only be with us for a short space of time, I took the precaution of doubling up with the camera and the sound recorder and a fair supply of spares in case anything happened to go wrong either with camera, sound, or lighting equipment.

### Filming at the Palace

We all arrived on the appointed day at 15.00 hours, and five minutes before the Duke's arrival time, Major Hugh-Smith joined us . . . our lights were in position, we had rehearsed our camera movements, and all was in readiness. I had met H.R.H. on three previous occasions in his capacity of President of the Guinea Pig Club, and I must say I had never anticipated that the fourth, if there were to be a fourth, would be in the Palace.

We employed Autocue apparatus, as used by television news readers. This reflects the wording to be read by means of 50% silvered silver surfaced mirror made out of optically flat glass, and situated immediately in front of the camera lens. Because the mirror is only partially silvered, the camera lens picks up a perfectly normal image straight through the back of the mirror, but with slightly increased exposure to compen-



*Another St. Dunstaner who is prominent in the film is veteran walker, Bob Young, who competes regularly at H.M.S. Daedalus.*

sate for the amount of light lost by virtue of the particles of silver comprising the mirror.

The words are typed on a narrow width of paper very similar to a toilet roll, and the operator sits somewhere out of the way of the camera and feeds the roll of paper, according to the speed of the reader, under a closed-circuit television camera. The text is received on a TV screen which forms part of the box holding the mirror which is placed at an angle of 45 degrees to the camera lens.

### Dry Run

Prince Philip had what we term a "dry run" to familiarise himself with the wording and then we shot a "take" lasting 1 min. 47 secs. It was a perfect "take", but Arnold suggested that we should have an alternative, shooting the foreword in two parts, which we did. As it happened the first "take" straight through was the best when we saw rushes next morning. The shooting took precisely 30 mins. and we were wrapped up and away just after 17.00 hours.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Of plays and concerts, drives and talks,  
We've written ad nauseam,  
(If there are any rhymes to that  
We really cannot see 'em.)

And after that appalling verse,  
In prose our news we'll tell, sir,  
Prose may be difficult to write  
But verse is simply hell, sir!

On the afternoon of March 3rd, we welcomed to Ian Fraser House, Mr. Richard Warwick, the Deputy Site Manager for Messrs. Taylor Woodrow at the Brighton Marina. He was a mine of interesting information about the vast project, and brought several models of the various constructions to aid our imaginations. Mr. J. Stokes again kindly acted as chairman and general tower-of-strength, and it gave us pleasure to welcome local St. Dunstaners. Members

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## IT'S ABILITY THAT COUNTS

—continued

By a happy coincidence, the Queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, was to open the new headquarters of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, Piccadilly, the day after our filming and I thought it might be a nice idea if the Royal Party, which included Princess Anne, President of B.A.F.T.A., might be able to see the results of our filming whilst on their tour of inspection of the premises. Luckily, both H.R.H. and the Chairman of the Academy agreed and I guess I couldn't have received more prompt Royal Assent of our piece of filming than that. I am told that much pleasure was derived from this part of the evening's proceedings, which took place in the editing room, where an editor sits at his editing table with the film and the magnetic tape running reel to reel on either side of him, with the picture appearing on a small screen, about the size of a small TV set, straight in front of him.

Gordon Honeycombe recorded the commentary for the TV version of *It's Ability that Counts* on 15th March.

of the audience and of the Fishing Club who were present asked pertinent questions concerning tides and difficulties of construction, which Mr. Warwick answered with ease and a nice modesty. We are most grateful to him for a very interesting afternoon—our thanks were expressed by Ginger Scott.

The Theatre Royal seemed obsessed with crime this month—we saw *Motive*, *Verdict*, and *Murder in Mind*. Another play was *My Fat Friend* and the final presentation was *'The Mating Season'*, starring Sid James. (No doubt the dominant colour was blue.) At the Astoria Cinema, the film *Jaws* continued to entertain the children and terrify the adults, and the Dome had numerous one-night shows. Popular amongst these were Sid Lawrence and his Orchestra, Peters and Lee, and a Johann Strauss Gala. One imagined sparkling chandeliers, handsome men, beautifully-gowned women, wine flowing like yoghurt . . .

An interesting event was a production of *The Royal Hunt of the Sun* at Roedean School, to which the Headmaster kindly invited a party of St. Dunstaners and escorts. It was a most ambitious project, but, as always, beautifully presented.

Entertainments in the House have been varied—the Brunswick Readers gave us a splendid performance of W. Somerset Maugham's *Home & Beauty*. It was full of wit—at times very acid—and one felt that the author, with his low opinion of humanity in general, and women in particular, would be appalled at the idea of sex equality! One Wednesday afternoon Mr. Edward Lewis came to read for us H. G. Wells' short story, *The Country of the Blind*. It was well-read, beautifully written, and full of quiet irony. Other entertainments included a Musical Quiz conducted by V.A.D. Miss Briant, and won by Eddie Allchin. (No prize—just the glory), and V.A.D. Mrs. Lamb gave us an enjoyable evening listening to her personal choice of records. They were played on our new stereo equipment, of which we are justifiably proud. Tom Eales gave us another delightful Stereo Mixture.



# CLUB NEWS

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## LONDON

The Steering Committee appointed by Mr. Wills to undertake the reorganisation of the London Club held a General Meeting at H.Q. on Saturday, 10th April. St. Dunstaners within a radius of twenty miles were invited to this meeting, which was followed by refreshments and a dance. Twenty-three St. Dunstaners with their escorts were present. The Chairman, Roy Armstrong, welcomed all those present, setting out the idea of coming more often to St. Dunstan's. Although at present Bridge on Saturdays and Dominoes on Thursdays are the only two items regularly run, Roy Armstrong stressed that other activities should be included to take place on these days or any other day suitable.

Vera Kemmish and Fred Sunderland were approved unanimously as additional members of the Steering Committee. The Secretary, Paul Nuyens, suggested that the London Club should be entitled St. Dunstan's London, Social, Cultural and Educational Club. This was to strengthen the ideas already set out in our Questionnaire. After some questions, this new title was agreed generally, with the exception of one vote.

It was suggested that outings and visits to places of interest should be organised, and that the details should be left to the Committee. Paul Nuyens pointed out that it would reduce a lot of work and expense if members would consult their monthly St. Dunstan's *Review*, in which these plans would be published well in advance, so that those interested could let the Committee know in writing as soon as possible their intention to participate. On the question of expenses, it was suggested that an amount of £4 per head, including lunch and transport, could reasonably be charged. This received general approval.

Meanwhile, Miss Walshe, the Canteen Manageress, and Hilda, assisted by Mrs. Bushell, Mrs. Carney, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Douglass and Mrs. Field, had prepared and laid out a wonderful spread of cold chicken, ham, beef and salads, accompanied by coffee and tea. After the refreshments there was dancing until 11

p.m., during which prizes were won by the lucky ticket-holders. During the interval, Roy Armstrong demonstrated a racing game, the results of which were absolutely unpredictable.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Roy Armstrong to our Club Steward, Ian Dickson, congratulating him and Miss Walshe, and all the helpers who had contributed to a very happy evening.

## MIDLAND

Although being rather depleted owing to sickness our attendance at the March meeting was fairly good.

It was very nice to welcome a new member, John Bailey, I understand that he enjoyed his first meeting and we look forward to his attendance in the future.

Some domino games were played off and we shall now make our second round draw at the April meeting, this will be for the Sir Arthur Pearson singles competition.

The tea for this meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec and we all thanked her in our usual manner.

We are still looking for those new members, so if you would like to come along and join us do not feel shy, just come along any second Sunday of the month, our meetings are held at the Royal British Legion Headquarters, Thorp Street, Birmingham, next door to the stage door of the Birmingham Hippodrome in Thorp Street. All St. Dunstaners, and their wives will be made very welcome.

*DOUG CASHMORE Secretary*

## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

On Saturday, March 13th, in the Annexe at Ian Fraser House, we had a "Mad Hatters Dance" which was a great success. This was our usual monthly club Dance with a few added attractions, not least of which was the "Mad Hatters" Parade. We were delighted that so many members were such good sports and took



part in the line-up. The judges found it most difficult to select the maddest hats but, after some deliberation, they reached a decision and of the two prizes one was given to Eileen Williams and the other to Bill Phillips.

Special mention must be made of one of our regular club members, Richard Brett, who wore his "Bingo Crown" with such splendour. It is now occupying valuable space in the Entertainments Section cupboard and is worn by the winners at our Bingo sessions.

All our members enjoyed the music of the group "Compact Three", strict tempo for the dancers and easy on the ear for those who like to sit and listen with some liquid refreshment close at hand. During the evening we featured a spot and elimination dance and, with the help and guidance of our most capable M.C., Alf Garstang, we successfully completed (would you believe?) a progressive St. Bernard Waltz, all finishing with the same partners as we began. Is there no limit to our skill and endurance?

## BOWLING CLUB REPORT

On March 10th St. Dunstan's Bowling Club entertained the ladies of Kingsway Bowling Club to a match and afternoon tea. These ladies gave us no quarter and a very close and interesting game, the final result being that the ladies only beat us by 2 shots. This I think is a credit to the St. Dunstan's Bowlers.

We are continuing with our aggregate competitions and the end of this competition will coincide with the close of the indoor season.

**TED FREARSON**  
*Chairman & Captain*

## FISHING SECTION

On Friday, 19th March a party of Club members left Newhaven Harbour aboard the "Pisces". We were pleased to welcome a new member, Albert Wallage from Peacehaven. This trip was originally booked for 12th March but had to be cancelled on account of bad weather.

A variety of fish was caught including some nice dabs and Wally Lethbridge landed a very good 2lb. 2oz. Channel Whiting (including head and tail) to which remark Wally drily replied "That's how we usually catch them!"

Bob Fullard was on to something big (truthfully) but it got away! Unfortunately, Bob has had to put his rod in to repair the damage and he has also had to invest in new end tackle. Hard luck Bob!

An enjoyable day was had by all.

## BRIDGE SECTION

Our third pairs match was held on Saturday, March 20th. Twenty-four boards were played at six tables, and the winners were:

*North-South*

**B. Ingrey and Mrs. Gover** 134

*East-West*

**P. McCormack and Dr. Goodlad** 145

## The Annual Pairs Competition

St. Dunstaners will be awarded a percentage score based on their results in each pairs match. The highest total of five of these percentages will determine which St. Dunstaner and partner wins the pairs competition.

## Saturday, March 27th

Results of the 4th Brighton Individual are as follows:

W. Lethbridge and J. Padley	77
F. Griffee and W. Phillips	63
M. Clemments and P. McCormack	60
R. Fullard and W. Scott	60
R. Bickley and Miss B. Simon	59
W. Burnett and A. Smith	59

## Easter Bridge Drive

Sixteen St. Dunstaners with their wives or friends as partners assembled in the large recreation room at Ian Fraser House, on Saturday, 10th April.

The Easter Drive was a festive occasion with the usual ups and downs of rubber bridge. A short break was made for afternoon tea. Many thanks to Matron Blackford for coming along to present the prizes—and many, many thanks to Bob Goodlad for running the Drive and for all the help he gives to St. Dunstan's.

The winners were:

<b>1st F. Griffee and</b>	
<b>Miss C. Sturdy</b>	1710
<b>2nd W. Scott and Dr. Goodlad</b>	1440
<b>3rd J. Padley and Mrs. D. Entwistle</b>	1300

*W. LETHBRIDGE*



## CLUB NEWS — *continued*

### LONDON SCOREBOARD

#### Dominoes

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during March were:

#### 4th March

- 1st R. Armstrong  
2nd M. Sheehan

#### 11th March

- 1st C. Hancock  
2nd W. Miller

#### 18th March

- 1st R. Armstrong  
2nd J. Majchrowicz

#### 25th March

- 1st C. Hancock  
2nd J. Majchrowicz  
M. Sheehan

### BRIGHTON SCOREBOARD

#### Dominoes Aggregate, March 1976

- 1st A. Dodgson  
T. Frearson  
2nd Mrs. C. Preedy  
Mrs. E. Dodgson  
J. Griffiths  
Mrs. J. Osborne

All fives and threes matches, quarter finals, must be played by 31st May.

The Cribbage Competition has reached the final round for Ladies and the semi-finals for the men.

## WHIST AGGREGATE SCORES

### 4th February, 1976

#### Ladies

- 1st Mrs. E. M. Dodgson 99  
2nd Mrs. P. Lethbridge 89  
3rd Mrs. M. Crabtree 84

#### Gentlemen

- 1st J. Kennedy 85  
2nd F. Griffie 83  
H. Preedy 83

### 3rd March, 1976

#### Ladies

- 1st Mrs. A. Smith 92  
2nd Mrs. P. Lethbridge 89  
3rd Mrs. B. Griffiths

#### Gentlemen

- 1st H. Preedy 91  
2nd T. Giles 85  
3rd A. Dodgson 84

### 31st March, 1976

#### Ladies

- 1st Mrs. H. Webster 86  
2nd J. Kennedy\* 85  
3rd Mrs. J. Walch 83  
Mrs. P. Lethbridge 83

\* This is not a mistake. Owing to shortage of ladies, Mr. Kennedy played as a lady. Well done, Joe!

#### Gentlemen

- 1st P. McCormack 90  
2nd R. Fullard 87  
3rd W. Holmes 83

## FAMILY NEWS

### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bradley* of Northwood Hills, Middlesex, are pleased to announce that their son Philip was married to Lillian Milliken on Wednesday, 10th March at Netherhall Christian Guest House, Largs, Scotland.

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Redford* of East Molesey, Surrey, are pleased to announce that their son Richard was married to Fiona Partlin on Thursday, April 8th in Edinburgh.

*Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Smith* of Heathfield, East Sussex, are pleased to announce that their son Philip was married to Janet Lumb on Wednesday, April 14th at Rushden Parish Church, Northants.

*Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Warren* of Meppershall, Bedfordshire, are pleased to

announce that their daughter Angela was married to Clive Walker on Saturday, 20th March at Meppershall Church.

### Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. William Kelly* of Workington, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 26th March, 1976.

### Silver Wedding

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. George McKay* of Ilford, Essex, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 29th March, 1976.

### Golden Wedding

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Arnold* of Poole, Dorset, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 25th March, 1976.



## FAMILY NEWS

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— continued

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. George Baldwin* of East Molesey, Surrey, whose daughter, Gillian, has just had a daughter, Kelly.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ron Homewood* of Norwich, on the arrival of their seventh grandchild; a daughter, Nicola, for their daughter Susan, and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Roake* of London, on the birth of their first grandchild on 20th February; a son, Daniel Robert, for their daughter Janet, and her husband.

### Great Grandparents

We warmly congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wheeler* of New Malden, Surrey on the birth of a great grandson, Benjamin, born on Monday, April 5th to their grandson Michael and his wife Ann.

### Examination and Career Successes

We congratulate Mary Cope, second daughter of *Johnny Cope*, who will be sixteen in May and has just passed her examinations, as a result of which she has been accepted at the Elms Technical College in Stoke-on-Trent, where she will start a two year Nursery Nursing Course in the autumn.

Congratulations to *Percy Stubbs* of Norwich, whose history of the part played by his company of the Royal Engineers in the Second World War has been accepted for Regimental records.

### Deaths

#### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mr. Charles Crewe* of Liverpool, whose wife, Ann, died on 19th March, 1976.

*Mr. Reginald Goding* of Gosport, on the recent death of his mother.

*Mr. Harold Greenhalgh* of Bolton, whose father died on 28th February, 1976.

*Mr. Alexander McLeod* of Luton, whose mother died recently.

*Mr. Cecil Pennells* of Brighton, whose father died on 24th March, aged 94.

*Mr. John Yarwood*, whose wife, Sarah, died on 26th March, 1976.

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### In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following **St. Dunstaners** and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

#### John Brown Campbell. *Pioneer Corps*

John Brown Campbell of Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear, died on 17th March 1976 at the age of 70.

Mr. Campbell served in the Pioneer Corps during the Second World War, but was invalided out in 1941 at the onset of his blindness. When he came to St. Dunstan's in 1947 he was already employed as a telephonist at the Durham Employment Exchange, and he continued with this work until he retired in 1966. He enjoyed gardening and chess and, in recent years, took pleasure in attending his local centre for the disabled where he did a great deal of handicraft work.

He was a widower, and leaves a son, John, and his family.

#### Doris May Cohoon. *Auxiliary Territorial Service*

Doris May Cohoon of Hull, North Humberside, died on 11th March 1976 at the age of 52.

Mrs. Cohoon served in the A.T.S. from 1942 to 1944, but it was not until 1973 that she became a St. Dunstaner.

She leaves a widower and two married daughters.

#### Reginald Frank Edwards. *Rifle Brigade*

Reginald Frank Edwards died at Pearson House on 8th April, 1976, aged 77.

During the earlier part of his life, Mr. Edwards was an Assistant Bank Manager at one of the "big Five" banks. He shared a very interesting life with his wife and they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1973, the year in which he was admitted to St. Dunstan's.

He was a widower, and leaves a sister, Mrs. N. Franklin, who lives in the Isle of Man.



# In Memory

—continued

## **Evan Thomas Hughes.** *2nd Royal Irish Regiment*

Evan Thomas Hughes of Swansea, West Glamorgan, died on 9th March, 1976, aged 78.

Mr. Hughes, who served in the 2nd Royal Irish Regiment, was wounded at Cambrai in 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's the following year. He trained in boot repairing and mat making and it was with the former that from 1921 he gradually built up a flourishing business in which he worked for 40 years until he retired.

After the death of his wife in 1970, he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Lloyd and her family. He also leaves a brother.

## **Percy William Pitkin.** *Army Cyclist Corps*

Percy William Pitkin, of London, died on 24th March, 1976, aged 78.

Mr. Pitkin served from 1916 to 1919 in the Army Cyclist Corps. His sight did not deteriorate until many years later and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in August, 1971. By then, he had retired after a career as a master builder. He enjoyed many quiet hobbies and had a special interest in music. He was several times among the group of St. Dunstaners attending the Not Forgotten Association's Christmas Parties at the Royal Riding School, Buckingham Palace.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Gesine Pitkin, a daughter, Valerie, and other relatives and friends.

## **Edmund Leonard Quickenden.** *Rifle Brigade*

Edmund Leonard Quickenden of Tankerton, Kent, died on 12th April, 1976 at the age of 78.

He served in the Rifle Brigade during the First World War and was wounded in 1917 by a trench mortar shell. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Quickenden had been employed by the G.P.O.

Our St. Dunstaner's greatest hobby was his garden and greenhouse where there was always a beautiful show of geraniums, begonias, gloxinias and dahlias of which he was justly proud. He and his wife celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in July, 1975.

His widow, Mrs. Daisy Quickenden, died on April 18th. They leave four sons and a daughter to whom we express our sympathy in their double bereavement.

## **Stanley Southall.** *Royal Warwickshire Regiment*

Stanley Southall of Warley, West Midlands, died on 2nd April, 1976, aged 52 years.

Mr. Southall served in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment during the Second World War and was wounded by the explosion of an enemy booby trap in Africa in 1944, when he not only lost his sight but suffered severe injuries to both hands. He came to St. Dunstan's in May that year, a month prior to his discharge from the Army. Although his disabilities precluded him from following an occupation, our St. Dunstaner had a period of training with us in 1944/45 and then returned home to enjoy a happy and contented life with his family.

He was a familiar figure at the Lee-on-Solent Camp, where he could be found participating on the sports field, at our Handless Reunion and he was a loyal supporter of the Midland Club.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ivy Southall, and four children.

## **Walter Tremble.** *Royal Army Service Corps*

Walter Tremble of Knaresborough, died in hospital on 15th March, 1976 at the age of 82.

He enlisted in July, 1916 and served in the Royal Army Service Corps until he was wounded at Ypres in 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's the following year and trained as a mat maker, an occupation he carried out for our Stores Department until 1965 in spite of the fact that he did not always have good health.

Over the years Mr. Tremble spent many enjoyable holidays with us at Brighton, and Mrs. Tremble always accompanied him on these visits. She died in 1971.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Brown.

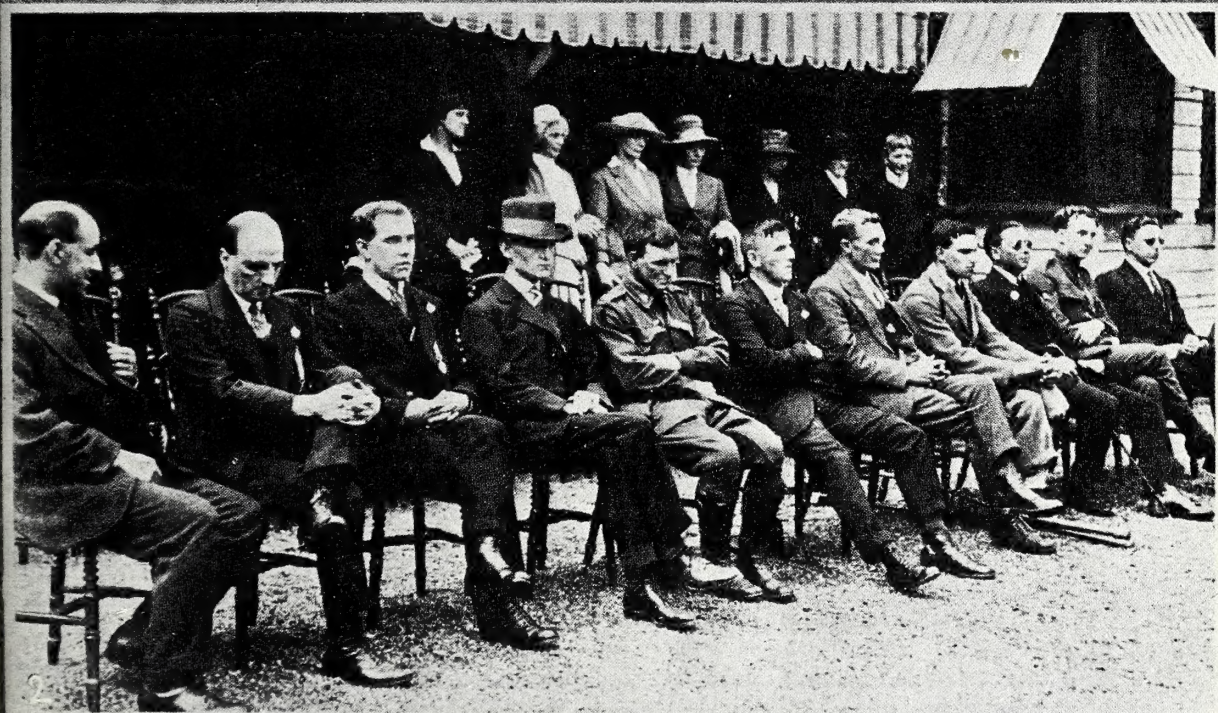
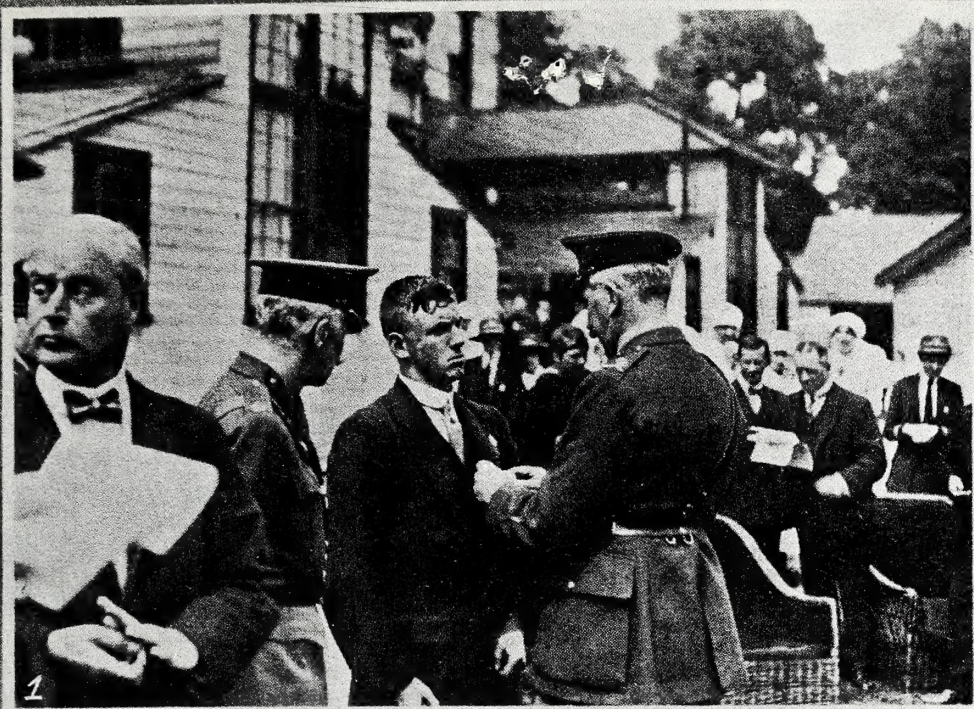
## **John Edward Walker.** *Royal Field Artillery*

John Edward Walker, of Yorkshire, died on the 2nd March, 1976 at the age of 88 years.

He served and was commissioned in the First World War and was wounded at Ypres, losing the sight of one eye. He was a farmer, but had retired by the time the sight in his other eye failed and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1972. His health was poor and he stayed for a time at Pearson House, but returned to his native Yorkshire, where he died in a nursing home.

He was a widower and leaves one daughter.







# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 675

JUNE 1976

10p MONTHLY

## Pensions and Allowances

The day following the speech by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mrs. Barbara Castle, the then Secretary of State for Social Services, announced that there are to be increases in War Pensions and other pensions and in some allowances of the order of 15%. She went on to say that her Government was "confident that the proposed increases will be considerably larger than the actual and likely movement of earnings and prices from the time of the last up-rating to the 15th November", the date when the increases will become effective.

The basic 100% Disability Pension at present in the sum of £21.80, will go up to £25 a week and there are to be corresponding increases in those allowances which are to be raised.

The War Widow who is under 65 years of age will have her pension raised from £17.20 to £19.80 per week. Age allowances are to be increased to £1.95 per week for the widow aged between 65 and 70 and for the widow over 70 years of age the allowance is to be increased to £3.90 a week.

Later on in the year a Supplement will be put into the *Review* containing more detailed information, but in the meantime, should St. Dunstaners have any enquiries, would they please address them to Mr. L. A. Slade, our Pensions Officer at Headquarters.

Two examples of the proposed revised payments are set out below

### EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

<i>Employable</i>	<i>Totally Blind</i>	
	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
	£	£
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	8.70	10.00
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Wife's Allowance	.50	.50
Child's Allowance	.38	.38
	£35.08	£40.18
<hr/>		
<i>Unemployable</i>	<i>Totally Blind</i>	
	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
	£	£
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	8.70	10.00
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Unemployability Supplement	14.20	16.30
Wife's Allowance	8.40	9.70
Allowance for First Child	6.88	7.83
Invalidity Allowance	.85	1.00
	£64.53	£74.13

**COVER PICTURES:** 57 years ago, these pictures appeared on the cover of the September 1919 Review. They show Major-General Fielding, D.S.O. presenting the Military Medal to Bernard Martin, who refers to the occasion in "As I Remember" on the centre pages.



## STAFF RETIREMENT

### Miss P. J. Rogers

Miss P. J. Rogers, Area Superintendent for the South of England, since November 1957, retires at the end of June, having continued in her post well beyond normal retirement age.

She is known to hundreds of St. Dunstaners, their wives, families, and widows from Kent to Cornwall, as one to whom they could turn in time of trouble for sympathy and help. Her warm friendship and understanding has endeared her to all who know her and she will be greatly missed in St. Dunstan's.

Her colleagues on the staff join with St. Dunstaners in wishing her good health and much happiness during a long retirement. We shall look forward to seeing her from time to time at future Reunions.

Miss P. M. A. Lord, who has been working with Miss Rogers since March, will assume responsibility for administering the Southern Area on the 1st July, 1976. Miss Lord comes to us with a background of welfare and administration experience, is widely travelled, and I am sure will prove a good friend and able adviser.

## BRAILLE BANK STATEMENTS

National Westminster Bank is now producing its own Braille statements for its blind and partially sighted customers. This free service will replace the previous system whereby statements were produced with the co-operation of the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

The object of introducing this new service is to give non-sighted customers a personal statement service which is as quick and confidential as that given to sighted customers. Under the previous system, due to other commitments by the RNIB, the Braille statements could often be delayed. Now the Bank has volunteers from its own staff trained in the Braille language who in the use of Braille machines and can produce and send out the Braille statement direct to a customer on the same day, as frequently as the customer requires.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society weekend will be held at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean, 2nd-4th July. Speaker: Louis Varney, C.Eng., M.I.E.E., call sign G5RV, who will talk on his aerial, the '5RV', which is known and used throughout the world. Licensed since 1927, Louis Varney has operated from some fifty different countries. There will be plenty of action for those who like to operate, for GB3STD will be working on 80 metres through to 10 metres and will also have a 2 metre station. Bookings through Miss E. M. Bridger at Headquarters.

## R. D. McCONNELL— MAYOR ELECT

Many congratulations to R. D. "Bertie" McConnell, who is to be Mayor of North Down, Northern Ireland. After fifteen years on the Bangor Borough Council and the last three years on the bigger North Down Borough Council, he will start his year in office as Mayor on the 3rd June. He has also recently been elected President of the N. Ireland Alliance Party for the next two years.

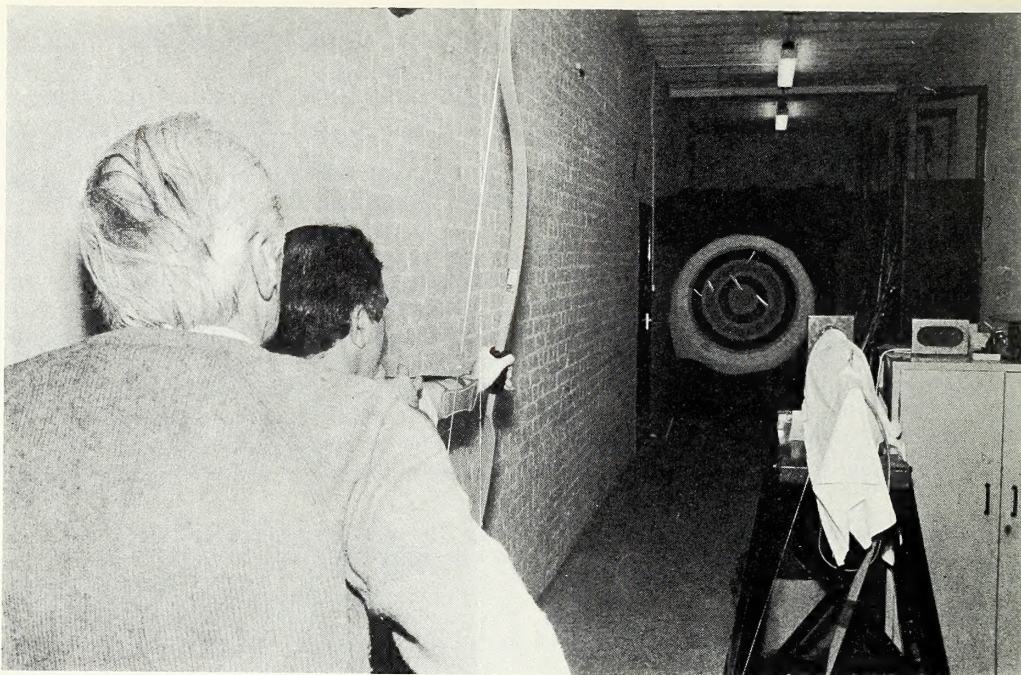
St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners have been very proud of Bertie's record of public service for a long time now and we all wish him and Olive every success in their new responsibilities.

## AN OUTSTANDING RECORD OF SERVICE

Harry Hocking retired on 14th May after 48 years service with the Bacup Shoe Company. He was employed by the company from the age of 17. During the Second World War, he served in the Royal Artillery and, after losing his sight, was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1945. Harry underwent telephony training and then returned to his old firm, where his services were highly valued.

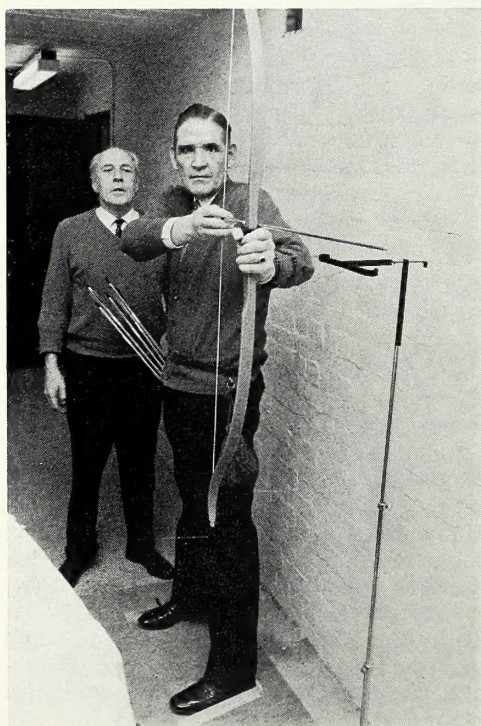
Harry Hocking's 65th birthday fell on 16th May. We wish him many happy years in his retirement with Mrs. Hocking, and congratulate him on this wonderful record.





*Peter McCormack, in action, is supervised by Laurie Austin.*

*Charles McConaghy demonstrates the special equipment.*



## ARCHERY

by Jock Carnochan

This is a report on an experiment carried out at Ian Fraser House. Like most sports of this nature, archery is very visual, and one wasn't sure whether it could be enjoyed by the visually handicapped, particularly the totally blind. To evaluate its possibilities, I discussed the pros and cons with our transport manager, Laurie Austin, who is a member of the Newhaven Archery Club, with the status of Bowman. We decided not to say too much about it until it had had a fair evaluation, as there is a great danger of people making all sorts of fancy reports on how well the blind do at this or that sport—then, after a few weeks' dabbling, everything falls flat, mainly because not enough thought and expertise has gone into the project in the first instance.

Laurie arranged a meeting with two of his club colleagues, Alf Upton, a fully qualified Instructor of Archery, and Bernie Yates, Bowman. The three of them volunteered to run an experimental archery course once a week in the rifle



range at Ian Fraser House. The three St. Dunstaners who volunteered to take part had no previous experience whatsoever in archery, so all were trainees. One was partially sighted and two totally blind, one of them recently blinded and this was the first sport he had taken up since his loss of sight. So you can see that this was a pretty good cross-section of the available talent.

One must also bear in mind that our three tutors, with the exception of Laurie, had to get used to handling blind people, in as much as their instructions mean more talking and explaining and the use of tactile methods as opposed to the visual demonstration which covers a dozen things in one go. But it was soon apparent that, because of their professionalism, this was quickly overcome and a good teacher/pupil relationship was established.

### **The First Lesson**

The first lesson covered the tactile investigation of the equipment, and the proper terminology that had to be learned in order that its use would be more efficient. This brought in the history of archery—and the proof of interest and attention was confirmed by a test at the end of this first session. Then came the handling of the equipment: correct foot-stance, holding of the bow, sizing up each individual for strength of bow required and length of arrow to suit the bow strength. At this stage, the rigid application of safety methods applied by all clubs was explained.

A couple of aids (shown in the photographs) were made: one a board for stance with foot-guides—and the stance, very much like golf, is pretty basic, the only difference being that the distance the feet are apart varies with the height of the individual. However, if the stance is right and the bow is held correctly, the direction of the arrow is not far out from the target. The second aid is a T-piece on a stand, which can be raised or lowered to suit the height of the archer and, putting the back of the hand holding the bow against the crossbar of the T gives a fine adjustment to direction and, after verbal location of each arrow by using the clockface as reference, the

archer makes his own adjustment accordingly. This means that, by using these two simple aids, the result is an individual effort. Once you start giving verbal correction, the archer is then only as good as the person giving the correction.

Our team of instructors also experimented with different materials covering the different scoring areas of the target, each one giving off a different sound when hit by the arrow. This proved quite successful and enabled the archers to denote their own score. All they now needed to know was at what point of the clock the arrow was and, as they became more experienced, they were allowed to walk up to the target and check. Having reached this stage, one can see the progressiveness of the teaching system employed, and the archers' score sheets show that once the basics were covered, practice and good application of the aids improved their efficiency.

One must bear in mind that, up to this point, all instruction and coaching has been indoors without the added frustration of outside influences such as noise, wind etc. With the advent of the summer weather, as much future practice as possible will be outdoors, to add to the final evaluation of the experiment. Once outside, it is hoped to try one final aid, that of a sound source at the base of the target. This will only be of benefit to those who have good hearing and good sound direction, and I should imagine that a blind person who is a well-motivated traveller would make the best use of this sound aid.

### **Expertise and Dedication**

In conclusion, it is fair to say that we are not the only visually handicapped establishment active in this sport, nor are we the first. I know of several others, but I would say with confidence that because of the expertise of our three instructors—and indeed the dedication of our three guinea pigs—they have proved that enjoyment can be had from the sport without the visual aspect.

The follow-up, of course, is that our instructors will put any St. Dunstan's archer who wishes to carry on with the sport in touch with his nearest club and, like many other sports, who knows, the



## ARCHERY— *continued*

inception of St. Dunstan's Archery Club, with our own annual competition. So, next time you are at Ian Fraser House for any length of time, find out more about it by taking part.

The three instructors were quite amazed at the progress made by our three archers, as they had not imagined such good results would come so soon, and are now convinced that, if taught properly, archery can be enjoyed by blind people.

For devoting a good deal of their own time to this experiment, our congratulations to the three St. Dunstaners: Peter McCormack, Charles McConaghy and Walter Bramley.

And a very special thank you to the Newhaven Archery Club for providing us with such excellent instructors.

### SCORE SHEET, 6th April, 1976

Indoor	Hits	Score	Golds
<b>C. McConaghy</b>			
997555-977777	12	84	3
999975-997553	12	74	6
Total	24	158	9
<b>W. Bramley</b>			
975555-997753	12	76	3
753955-997553	12	72	3
Total	24	148	6
<b>P. McCormack</b>			
977530-555553	11	59	1
555553-999553	12	68	3
Total	23	127	4

## REUNIONS

### LONDON ONE

"A memorable day, May Day, Cup Final Day and St. Dunstan's Day". With these words, Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris, a member of St. Dunstan's Council presiding at the Reunion held on 1st May at the Hotel Russell, began his after luncheon speech.

Among the 132 people present, were 9 St. Dunstaners from the First World War, 39 from the Second World War and one war widow, Mrs. Fester, distinguished guests Mrs. Opperman, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, South Africa, with her husband Steve, Lady Ellerman, Mr. Pat Longden, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of Blinded Soldiers of St. Dunstan's, Australia, and his wife. The St. Dunstaners came principally from Kent and Surrey, with a few others from Berkshire, Hampshire, Middlesex, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.

The arrangements were made by Miss Stewart assisted by Miss Blebta, and Mrs. Thompson had also come over from Northern Ireland.

Having welcomed everybody present, Sir Douglas said how sorry he and the company were that Lady Fraser could not be there, but he paid a warm tribute to Lady Ellerman and to her husband, the late Sir John Ellerman, both of whom had done so much for St. Dunstan's. He

thanked the welfare visitors for the arrangements and gave St. Dunstaners the names of members of staff attending the Reunion. He gave a special word of welcome to James Fraser, Maidstone, attending his first Reunion.

Sir Douglas directed the thoughts of his audience to the startling changes in communications which had taken place over the past seventy years, and to the communications gap which is said to exist between the older and younger generations. Mentioning the case of his own daughter, who travelled widely round the world, he said that young people thought nothing of that today, whereas in earlier times only the rich and fortunate ever moved further than about twenty miles from the place where they lived.

Whereas in earlier centuries, Sir Douglas told his audience, Heads of Government had plenty of time to consider situations as they arose, nowadays these would be shown simultaneously as they occurred on television screens all over the world, and people expected the response to be almost equally swift.

The speaker related this problem of acclimatising oneself to rapid change to the position of war-blinded men and women who, when they were first



blinded, had had to learn a whole lot of new techniques. "You have had a communication problem", he said, "I don't think it is new to you". In conclusion, Sir Douglas hoped that everyone would enjoy the afternoon and would be back again at the same Reunion next year.

After Mr. Wills had spoken, the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstan's was moved by Edward Sayer, Deal, who began with a witticism about the dangers of public speaking. He then thanked Sir Douglas Morris for his address, the Council and staff of St. Dunstan's for the arrangements, and the hotel for an excellent meal. Although he was a comparatively new St. Dunstaner of only four years standing, Mr. Sayer thought he could view St. Dunstan's as well as others who had been within the organisation for forty or fifty years. He went on to say that he did not really like the word "organisation", because St. Dunstan's was a family. Mr. Sayer then paid a very warm tribute to all the staff, particularly the welfare visitors who, he said, are "fanatically devoted to our cause".

After luncheon, there was dancing to the music of Bill Rickard, preceded by Joe Laverty playing the piano accordion. Miss Phyllis Rogers, to whom a special tribute had been paid by Mr. Sayer, presented the raffle prizes at tea-time.

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### FORDWATER WHITE CANE CLUB

Our St. Dunstaner, Stephen Blake of Chertsey, is Chairman, and founder member, of the Fordwater White Cane Club which is recognised by the Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind.

Stephen hopes to increase the membership, and invites St. Dunstaners living in the Runnymede, Weybridge, Walton or Staines areas to contact him any evening at Chertsey 60014. He has written to us as follows:

"We have been going for about nine months, and we would like to open an evening meeting, but to do this we would like to know if any members would be interested in coming to this club.

"If any member is free on a Tuesday afternoon, we would be pleased to see them at the club. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays each month at 2 p.m. until 4.30 p.m."

### MULTI-DISABLED SPORTS

The B.S.A.D. Multi-Disabled Sports will be held at Stoke Mandeville from Thursday, 9th September until Sunday, 12th September. Competitors this year have to be entered via areas in which they live. I hope I have contacted the competitors who have been before. Anyone else please let me know they want to come. Entries required now to:

**Mrs. Spurway, Mount House  
Halse, Taunton, Somerset  
Tel: Bishop Lydeard 432359**

*Note the extra day!*

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### WANTED

If any reader has a copy of *The Splendour of Israel* by Robert Payne (Robert Payne Productions, 1963), A. C. Pointon would be interested to know. The book is now out of print and he has been unable to obtain a copy. Any offers to Mr. Pointon will be forwarded to him by the *Review*.

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### TO THE CREDIT OF BARCLAYS BANK

It is fifty years since the St. Dunstan's Gift Club scheme was begun as a means of obtaining a regular market for the work of war-blinded craftsmen. In 1928 Barclay's Bank entered the scheme. Gift clubs were formed in branches up and down the country, largely through the efforts of Mr. L. F. Elvin, a chief clerk, who received the encouragement of the then Chairman, Mr. F. F. Goodenough.

In 1930 there were 2,000 Barclay's Bank employees in membership who subscribed roughly £1 a head to purchase articles from St. Dunstan's. Mr Goodenough became Patron and staff were urged to participate. Then the average monthly subscription was two shillings. Today it is 25p and the average spent on goods is between £9,500-£10,500, annually.

We are indebted to Mr. P. Barnsley, Welfare Officer of Barclay's Bank and Honorary Group Secretary of the St. Dunstan's Gift Club for this information. We are also indebted to some 6,000 Barclay's Bank employees for their interest in St. Dunstan's.



# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1478*

**Shakespeare**

by Ivor Brown

*Read by Gabriel Woolf*

*Reading Time 14 hours*

An amiable and scholarly look at our national poet, the Stratford lad who became by turn strolling player, playwright, poet, actor-manager, property tycoon and retired gentleman of substance.

This is by no means the usual "fictionalised" biography, Mr. Brown sticks strictly to the facts, agonisingly meagre though these are. He does, however, allow himself some speculation—as thousands have done before—on the identity of the "lovely boy" and, of course, the Dark Lady of the sonnets. And he is a dedicated "Stratfordian"—he has no time at all for this Baconian nonsense!

This is a long and finely detailed book about Shakespeare and the times which saw the full flowering of his genius. Running through it, to delight and dazzle, are countless examples of the most glorious poetry in the English language.

*Cat. No. 481*

**Hemlock Lane**

by E. S. Turner

*Read by Eric Gillett*

*Reading Time 6½ hours*

When one night the police decide to pay a visit to the "Lovers' Lane" the lives of a number of people are dramatically changed in consequence.

In one of the cars a young journalist is sitting with a girl. Earlier he had removed his steering-wheel for greater freedom and unnoticed it has rolled into a pond (from where it is later salvaged by an obliging policeman).

In a second, the girl's father, a respected driving-school owner, is trapped by his pupil, a nubile and scheming wench, whose intentions seem less than honourable. A third opulent vehicle contains the local M.P. nursing his thwarted passion

and a nasty bite from the dog defending the lady's honour.

And this is only the beginning! There follows a series of hilarious adventures, courtroom scenes, a car chase, plot and counterplot. One character finds fame and fortune, another is summoned to appear before the Bar of the House of Commons! It's all outrageous and sparkling and very funny indeed!

*Cat. No. 541*

**The Strings are False**

by Louis MacNeice

*Read by Duncan Carse*

*Reading Time 11 hours*

In 1941 Louis MacNeice left some papers with a friend. They were the notes for an autobiography. He told the colleague he would collect them at a later date. Strangely, he never mentioned them again. When the poet died in 1963 it was decided to publish the MSS just as they were. This book is the result.

MacNeice was born in Northern Ireland and sent to England to be educated. After Sherborne he went to Marlborough (he was a neighbour of Betjeman) and on to Oxford, where he met Auden and Stephen Spender.

After Oxford there were several university teaching appointments both here and in America. He married and later divorced his wife. He visited Spain during the Civil War.

But this book is no mere catalogue of events and achievements in a man's life. Much of it is taken up with MacNeice's philosophy of living, his comments on, and attitudes to, Western civilisation, the arts and politics of his day.

He had the poet's eye and memory for minute and finely-etched detail, an insignificant event in childhood, the colour of a sky, the shape of a tree, the chilblains on the hands of a child in war-tortured Spain.

For a "rough draft" this is a remarkable work. It is fine writing at its modern best, the language is full of image and music and often quite startlingly beautiful.



# AQUAFROLICS

by Edward Allchin

Well it was all Jock Carnochan's fault really! That I should be subjected to the terrors of the large pool at the "King Alfred" in Hove, under the eagle eye of an Amateur Swimming Association examiner, on one windy evening this week. I shall tell the sad tale.

I often use the pool at Ian Fraser House, wallowing around like some porpoise, in an attempt to put a sound body to an unsound mind. Seeing my aquatic affinity Jock approached me in the lounge over coffee and asked if I'd like to attempt a personal survival course, in view of the fact that I was "making a splash" in the pool. I asked him if this would result in letters after my name—and was rather upset when I was told that all I would get would be a boost to my ego.

So from then on Jock undertook the Herculean task of getting me up to the standard required; there were apparently four classes of award: bronze, silver, gold, and honours. I was all for going for gold, but Jock wisely suggested that the

bronze would be a better starting point. He then read out to me what was entailed, which caused a nervous tick to develop, and a wish that I'd kept my big mouth shut, and contented myself with a Moby Dick existence in the pool.

Firstly one had to jump in the deep end in pyjamas—a strange ensemble for a start. Then clad in this night attire over swimming trunks, swim 50 yards. Then tread water for 4 minutes, then take off the pyjamas in the water and then swim 500 yards—just like that; then returning to the deep end to hoist oneself out, the use of steps being not allowed.

Under Jock's eagle eye I practised religiously; with minor disasters, such as the time as well as removing my pyjama trousers I also removed my swimming trunks! (Thank heavens no ladies or sharks were present!) Then came the blow, I would have to go to the "King Alfred" baths at Hove, as that was where the examiner was based. So acting beyond the call of duty one windy Monday night Jock arrived with his Saab car and daughter Mandy, (obviously the child wanted a change from the telly!) I found that a life saving class was in progress, but that they had instructions to "Mind the blind man". The instructor George gave me the "gen", and said he'd go round the pool side clapping his hands so that I'd get direction. ("Clap hands here comes a Charlie!") All went well and easy till the treading water bit; four minutes seems a lifetime! However, thinking that: "We shall overcome" I managed to disrobe without indecent exposure, and proceeded to swim the 500 yards and ended in a blaze of glory by heaving myself out. However, my bloated ego was punctured when I found out that this test is usually taken by 13 year olds, (still my reports used to say I was a late developer!).

Now Jock has started coaching me for the silver! So not quite a university degree; but as Neil Armstrong said when he stepped out on the moon, (slightly differently)—a small but large step forward for humanity! Perhaps next week I'll swim the channel if nothing else crops up?

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*Cat. No. 610*

## **The Whole Truth**

by Robert Daley

*Read by Marvin Kane*

*Reading Time 13¾ hours*

This is an absorbing and thoroughly readable book which takes the reader behind the scenes of international journalism. The focal point is the Paris News Bureau of an eminent New York newspaper. The story deals with the problems, both professional and personal, of two men, Bureau Chief Paul Pettibon, whose marriage and career are under threat, and young newcomer Walter Orde, struggling to preserve his identity and integrity.

The book gives a graphic and vivid picture of the esoteric world of the Foreign Correspondent, the brutal slap-on-the-back, knife-in-the-back world in which newspaper politics can end a man's career, and the malice of a Newspaper God three thousand miles away, can end a man's life. For Adults only.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

During April, Spring really arrived—lambs gambolled, birds twittered and daffodils danced in the breeze, tra-la. We heralded the event with two entertainments in the House, *Music for Spring*, presented on records by our faithful friend, Mr. Michael Hayes; and *Spring-time in Words and Music*. The latter was compiled and presented by Mr. Tom Eales, Mr. Lyndon Mason, and Mrs. Dorothy Williams, and took place on Palm Sunday. Tom's choice of music and his timing, were impeccable; Lyndon proved how beautiful poetry can be when read with feeling and perfect diction.

## Easter

Easter was a happy time—on Good Friday a full coach went to Tylden House, near Horsham, for cream teas and returned to a performance by the Arena Players of *Musical Evening*. On the Saturday a large party went racing at Plumpton, and returned in high spirits. Whether these were due to enjoyment of the sunshine, or getting the better of the bookies, we knew not. A Whist Drive and Dominoes Tournament were held that evening, followed by a buffet supper. The prize-winners were as follows:

## Whist

### Ladies

1st	Mrs. C. Hancock	70
2nd	Miss V. Kemmish	66
3rd	Miss E. Aldred	60

### Gentlemen

1st	F. Griffiee	66
2nd	C. Walters	62
3rd	A. Smith	61

## Dominoes

1st	R. Hewhurst	7 games
2nd	C. Eighteen	6 games
	P. Stubbs	

The Easter Day Church Service was lovely—our beautiful Chapel was filled, and looked its best with the sun's rays streaming on to the altar. An urn containing a profusion of spring flowers had been placed in front of the lectern by Miss Allison, who arranges the Chapel flowers so beautifully throughout the year. That evening a play-reading was

given in the Winter Garden by guests Miss Eve King, Mr. Les Harris, Mr. and Mrs. L. Robinson, and staff members Mrs. D. Lamb and Mrs. D. Williams. Three one Act comedies were very much enjoyed by the audience, and also by the cast! Plays which seem somewhat feeble when read to oneself come alive when performed to an audience, and the cast had their work cut out to retain their composure!

On Easter Monday we again visited Plumpton Races, returning in time for supper, followed by a dance, with bar and buffet. During this, we held the Easter Bonnet Parade. Our judges this year were those splendid play-readers, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lilley, and their charm and warmth added a great deal to an enjoyable evening. They had a difficult task in choosing the winners, but the following were awarded prizes:

### Ladies

Miss J. Briant V.A.D.  
Miss L. Farrow  
Mrs. P. Stubbs

### Gentlemen

E. Daniels (Pearson House)  
C. Eighteen  
T. Slater (Pearson House)

We offer them our congratulations, and also our thanks to the V.A.D. staff, who invariably come up trumps, and do most of the hard work of creating the pretty and witty confections.

Heralding the summer to come, we now have two drives each week, one for Ian Fraser House, and one for Pearson House. Whilst remaining faithful to our old haunts around Sussex, we hope to include some new ports of call for tea.

## New Friends

New friends were made this month by the visit of Mr. Cliff Gibbons and his companions from Lancing, who entertained us on the piano, drums and clarinet. They played many old favourites and invited us to join in and sing, which we did with a will. Mr. Peter Larsen paid one of his welcome visits and entertained us with his wizardry on the electronic organ. He is now one of our most popular visitors, and it seems difficult to imagine that, before his first visit, interest



was—well, tepid. We can now rely on a well-filled Lounge every time he kindly gives his time to us.

The visit of Mr. Albert Hook, a local antiques expert, was equally successful. Those who attended were amply rewarded by an extremely interesting, informative and amusing talk, and we were treated to the all too rare experience of meeting a man who was completely happy and fulfilled in his work. He loves his craft of restoring antique furniture to its original beauty, and we thank him for communicating some of his enthusiasm to us. Our gratitude was expressed most sincerely by Eddie Allchin.

That long-awaited, three times postponed, visit of the barber-shop quartet, Four Men in a Bar at last materialised. The visit had been announced and then cancelled so often that the Escort Office was receiving some very old-fashioned looks, not to mention jokey remarks about "One over the eight" etc. The Quartet turned out to be well worth waiting for, and we hope very much that they will pay us a return visit. They told us that they had grown so tired of being introduced as Four Men in a Bath (so unhygienic!) that they are now billed as Harmony Express—all terribly confusing!

## A WALK IN THE WOODS

Readers who were interested in **Ron Smith's** account of the Nature Trail for blind people at Goodwood (*Review*, November 1971) might like to know of another trail nearer London. This is the Woodland Walk for the Blind at Trent Park, Enfield, London's newest country park.

It has been arranged so that a sighted escort is not necessary. A Braille leaflet explains how to get to the park from the nearest station and how to locate the trail. Running the whole length of the walk, three quarters of a mile, is a low rail which can be followed with a stick. Changes of ground surface indicate items of interest which are described on Braille plaques.

The Braille leaflet is available from:  
GLC Parks Department,  
233, High Holborn,  
London WC1V 7DN.

## THE REDUNDANT

by Bert Wood

The other day the guv said to me,  
Bert boy, its redundant you be,  
Be I, sez I, aarr you be, sez he,  
I'm closing down this factory.

It's goodbye to old Betsy, a lathe full of charm,  
They say she was found in a brokendown barn,  
This is true I'm sure cos she's not very fit,  
And her body was stained with cow's, and bull  
dung.

Capstan wobbles, collet won't close,  
How did she work? No-one knows,  
With lump in throat, moist of eye,  
Patting her busted bar feed, I bade goodbye,  
Hoping she will be happy in the scrapyard, in the  
sky.

Redundant I be and how very strange,  
To be signing once more at the labour exchange,  
And thinking perhaps one day I'll be,  
Up there with old Betsy, just her and me.  
What a horrible thought!

## FLEXICUP

George Fallowfield has written to the *Review* about a useful gadget for anyone with the use of only one hand. The Kalamak Flexicup is made of resilient material which expands and firmly grips eggs of various sizes. It has a heavy serrated base which, provided it is kept clean, will grip most smooth surfaces, such as cloth, formica or paint.

George says "I have devoured two eggs using only one hand and my wife watching to see I didn't cheat and I found this "Flexicup" a success so thought I'd tip you off".

Thank you, George. Kalamak Productions are at 64 Thurlow Park Road, London SE21 8HZ, and the cups cost 95p each including packing and post.

## BRIDGE NOTES

The May individual Bridge matches were played on Saturday, 1st May, and the results were as follows:

L. Douglass and R. Evans	66
B. Miller and F. Dickerson	64
Miss V. Kemmish and J. Majchrowicz	62
J. Carney and H. Meleson	60
R. Goding and W. Allen	56





*The House, Regent's Park.*

## AS I REMEMBER

### Sid Tarry and Bernard Martin talk to David Castleton

Sid Tarry is a St. Dunstaner who can claim to have led a full life. Successfully following his profession of physiotherapy for nearly fifty years, he also found time to give to voluntary work with the Wandsworth War Pensions Committee, and to the British Legion, Freemasonry and many other charitable organisations. Already a Member of the Order of the British Empire, he was promoted to OBE in 1962.

The foundations of this career were laid in Regents Park in 1915, where Sid arrived in November from the Second London General Hospital, Chelsea. He had been totally blinded by a rifle bullet at Fricourt on the Somme, serving with the Royal Fusiliers. In hospital, his visitor from St. Dunstan's was not Sir Arthur Pearson, but his daughter Mrs. Pansy Lipscombe.

"She came to interview me when I was first in that hospital. I said I was sorry to have to meet her with a growth of beard. She told me it didn't matter and I said, 'Well, I don't usually present myself to

ladies like this.' She said, 'I'll do it', and she shaved me there and then in hospital."

Mrs. Lipscombe visited Sid Tarry several times and then, one Saturday, she came in to say, "I've come to take you to St. Dunstan's." What was St. Dunstan's asked Sid. "It is an organisation that is going to look after all you blinded soldiers."

"She put me in the car and took me there. At the hospital they'd given us horrible old suits and I had a blooming old muffler to put round my neck. I did feel a bit awkward and I apologised to the Matron. She called the orderly, 'Wilfred,' she said, 'take this gentleman upstairs and fix him up with some proper clothes.' I came down with a blue serge suit and a collar and tie."

Immediately Sid found himself caught up in the activities of St. Dunstan's. That same afternoon, in a party of six, he was off to the Central Hall, Westminster, "Where there was a lovely concert. Clara Butt was singing—my favourite singer. I can remember the song she sang,



'Has anyone news of my boy, Jack?' It took me out of myself entirely. When you got to St. Dunstan's you hadn't time to be blind, they kept you so busy."

"Very soon after this I had my first interview with Sir Arthur. As I was taken into the room he said, 'Walk straight on, don't trouble, you'll be all right. Now stop, right opposite you is the chair.' I felt down and sat on it. He said, 'My daughter, Pansy, has told me all about you. I am glad you are coming in and what would you like to take up here, to train for?'"

### No Carpenter

Sid had no idea and suggested he might try carpentry. "He said, 'Are you a carpenter?' I told him I'd never sawn a bit of wood in my life. He said, 'Well, look here, I have a gentleman sitting next to me. He's going to interview you now.'" So began Sid's selection as a masseur. He does not remember who his questioner was, but he recalls that the interview went something like this:

"Do you know how to spell the word massage?"

"No, I'm afraid I don't sir. I can work it out, I think, M - A - double S - A - G - E."

"What does it mean?"

"Well, I don't know that, sir. A type of rubbing, that's all I understand."

"Do you know anything about anatomy?"

"I don't know anything about it."

"So he turned to Sir Arthur, recalls Sid, 'That's the material I want,' he said, 'That's how I became a masseur!'"

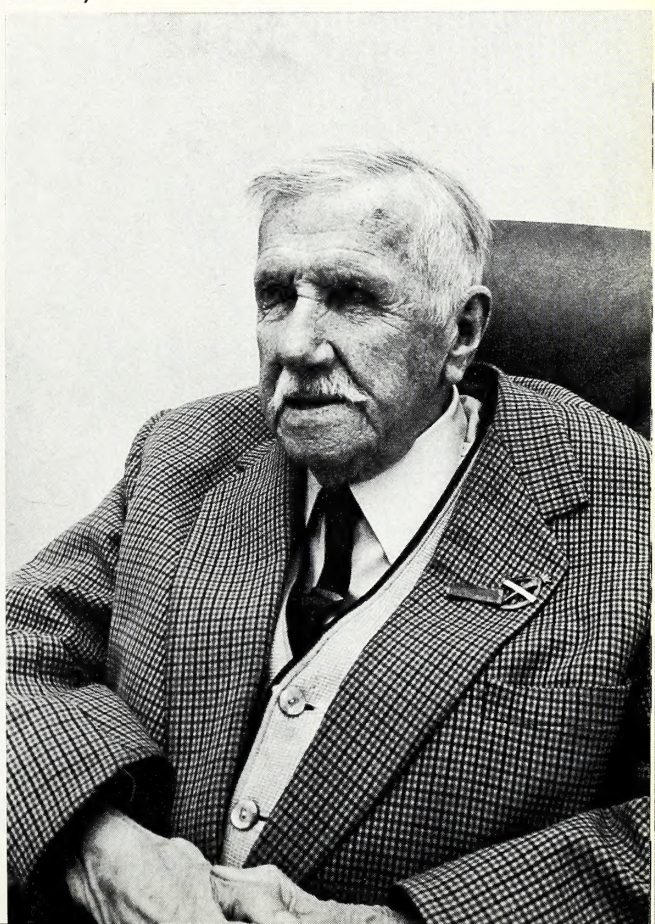
There were still only comparatively few St. Dunstaners in training then, "About twenty of us. After that it began to grow enormously. We put a good time into learning Braille. They didn't make a class of it. They took us away into quiet corners individually. We also went to typing."

"I lived in the main House. Eventually we moved to Sussex Place so we could study better, quieter. That was the masseurs only. In the mornings, they used to give us a call at half past seven. If we wanted any help the orderlies were there. Otherwise, we would go down to a lovely breakfast. We had good food, beautifully cooked and prepared. Mr. and Mrs. Brighurst trained us. She'd come along, when I was finishing breakfast, get my

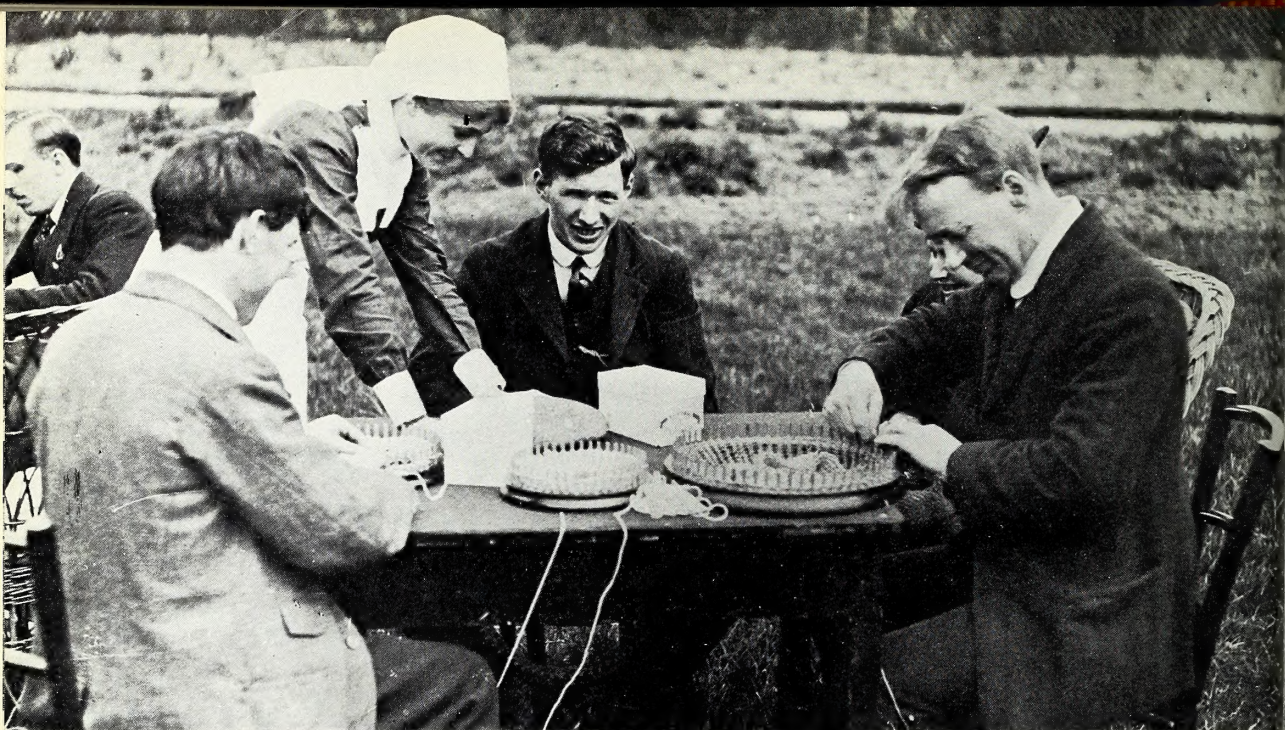


Bernard Martin.

Sid Tarry.







*Miss Pain supervising the making of string bags.*

ear—'I want you, Sidney.' She taught us the fundamentals while he taught us the more advanced side of it."

In their spare time, Sid and his contemporaries went rowing on the lake as Tommy Milligan has already described. "We had Braille playing cards issued and were taught to play cards and dominoes. We used to have domino tournaments. A lot of concert parties used to come, and I used to sing a bit too. If they were short of a baritone, you see, they'd come along and ask me."

"I used to enjoy dancing immensely. The sisters taught us. The room we had for our big sittingroom had been the ballroom to the people who had lived there before. We had some fine dances there, you know. Waltzes, two steps, the Valeta—all those. We did occasionally, unfortunately, tread on the ladies' toes but they were grand girls, those V.A.D.'s."

"Harry Cook could see a bit and I used to knock about with him. Go to the pubs around St. Dunstan's. The British Stores was one. They'll all know the British Stores—just down on the corner of Baker Street. We could go there ourselves. We were encouraged to get about by ourselves if we could. We would whistle

along. You wouldn't bump into things because you would hear the echo come back. As you went along, 'Hello Sid, where are you going?' and somebody was willing to take you. You were never left alone."

There were, of course, many visitors to St. Dunstan's in those days and Sid recalls one of them: "I was making a string bag and somebody said to me, 'Hello, were you in the Guards?' I said, 'No, I was a Fusilier.' He said, 'But they are Guards colours you are making—Ah, but Fusiliers and Guards colours are the same.' I heard him rustle a newspaper and so I asked him what horse won a particular race. After asking which horse I'd backed, he told me, 'Unfortunately, it didn't win. It is my horse, I am the Duke of Devonshire.' He insisted on buying my string bag and gave me a fiver!"

"Sir Arthur Pearson used to come round, 'Ah, Sid—he'd pull my hair, 'Come on, Sid, how are you.' He was very nice to us all, you know. He was a grand man, a little austere, perhaps, but, well, he was Sir Arthur Pearson."

"There wasn't much spare time. Somebody grabbed you to teach you Braille and somebody else grabbed you to teach



you something else. It was all worthwhile every tiny bit of it. I wouldn't mind living my life all over again."

Like Sid Tarry, Barney Martin's main impression of St. Dunstan's in the First World War was one of hard work. "They were hard on that sort of thing. They wanted us all to be working every day. It was work and that was it."

Bernard Martin, to give him his proper name, is an Irishman, whom I met in Pearson House, like Tommy Milligan, the first subject in this series. Barney came to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He was visited by Sir Arthur in the Second London General Hospital. "He told me all about St. Dunstan's. That we should go there, be looked after and taught a new trade. He had a sharp, quick voice. He spoke very quickly. The second time he came, it was after the Germans broke through on 21st March, 1918 and they'd worked their way nearly to Paris."

"I asked him what he thought about it, 'Oh,' he said, 'they won't be there very long. In a month or two they'll be driven back.' Which was the truth, they were

driven back. Yes, he was that sort of man. My impression was that he always looked at the good side of everything. He never thought there could be failure. Some of the men said he was blinded by Almighty God so that he'd take on the job of looking after us. It was the Will of God, that's what they said. It looked like that to me also."

After leave, which he spent in Ireland getting married, Barney entered St. Dunstan's for training on May 28th, 1918. "I started training then as a basketmaker and learned basket-making, matting, Braille reading and writing and the typewriter. I was at the College, where Mr. Huskisson was the Adjutant and Miss Power was Matron. She was an Irish lady who came from Kerry."

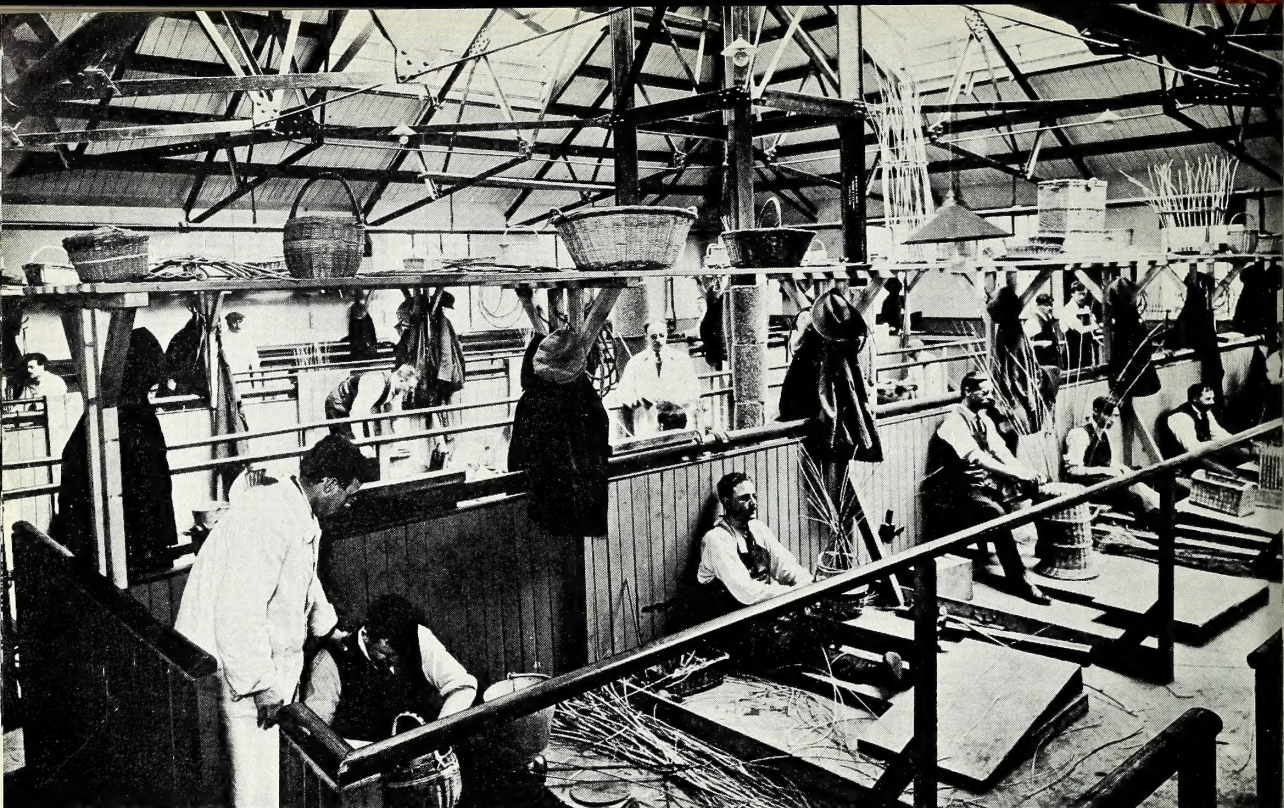
"There was the Bungalow, the House and the College. We had sports between the Houses. All I was connected with was the tug-of-war. I was first man on the rope for the College. We didn't win, I think the House used to win."

"Then we used to have gym every morning. There was an ex-Guardsman,

*An open-air dancing class.*







*The basket workshop at Regent's Park.*

Bill Tovell. He used to come up every morning and put us on this Swedish drill, and then we'd go for a walk through the park, sort of a march, singing songs as we went along. This was about seven in the morning! We were very keen! And when Bill wasn't there I used to take it over because I did a course of this in the Army myself."

Barney won a gold chain for Braille: "It was a test, you had to be able to read so many words in a certain time. I forget now how many, but for about a quarter of an hour you were at it and if you could get over a certain number of words in that time, well, you passed and you got a gold chain. I found Braille very interesting. I am delighted that I learned it because it has helped me a lot through life."

In the basket workshops Barney remembers Sir Arthur's visits. "He'd take the basket up and feel it and give his opinion on it. He was desperately interested in the men. He used to bring us all together at different times and have a talk about our life and the way we should carry on; how we should conduct ourselves and how we should walk along

the road. He used to walk like a sighted man. At that time, of course, it was easier to get about. He wouldn't carry a stick. He discouraged the stick. He used to walk along with his hands in his pockets. I don't know how he did it!"

"We used to go to the theatre in groups—to the Palladium, I think it was, on Saturdays and we used to go to the Victoria Palace. That was on Monday evening and we used to see those old timers like Harry Wheldon, George Bass, Talbot O'Farrell. They came up to Regent's Park. A whole lot of them to stand up in the Park, in the grounds of the House. It was terrific, I remember Marie Lloyd, she had a terrific reception."

Another highlight among Bernard Martin's memories of Regent's Park is the day in May, 1919, when Major-General Fielding, Officer Commanding the London District presented War Decorations to eleven St. Dunstaners. One of them was Sergeant B. Martin, who received the Military Medal for his leadership in a successful attack on Bulgarian trenches at Agamar on the River Struma, and, later, defending an advanced post.



"I thought no more about it and here about October didn't my photograph appear on the cover of the *St. Dunstan's Review* with Sir Arthur Pearson standing beside me on my right hand side? In my opinion, the greatest honour of all. The picture was up at the back of my bed all over the years."

When Barney first left *St. Dunstan's*, he settled in the Suffolk village of Bungay as a basket maker. "Business was good, but I was very slow at that time. I remember the instructor coming down one day. I had a little shop at the front and the workshop was at the back. I only had one basket in the shop. He said to me, his name was Voisey, he said, 'Is this all the work you've done?' As I say, I was slow. It used to take me about a day and a half to make a basket. So he got a whole lot of willow, bundled it all and tied it up. 'As soon as you get up tomorrow,' he said, 'Put that lot in the water and leave it there until we have our breakfast.' He started off about 9 o'clock and he knocked up 12 shopping baskets that day—12 barrel shopping baskets! As time went on I speeded up my own work."

Soon the Martins went back to Ireland. "The missus got desolate and lonely." After some difficulty to find a place to live and work, Barney was finally settled just outside the town of Bray, in some houses built specially for ex-servicemen under a grant from the British Government. "I continued to work there right up until 1970. All sorts of baskets. I made thousands of baskets."

In December, 1921, while he was living in Sandycove, near Dun Laoghaire, Barney received a telegram. It announced the death of Sir Arthur Pearson. "I'd got about an hour to get to the boat at the North Wall. I made it. It took me 12 hours. I travelled alone, my wife had our three children to look after. At Euston, we were met by the Scots Guards. I remember, after the service, a man of the Scots Guards had me on his right and a man named Stibbles, Jock Stibbles, on his left and we marched the whole way up to the Hampstead Cemetery. I was just beside the grave where Sir Arthur's coffin was lowered down. I remember singing *Abide With Me* at the grave-side and I remember a man named Slaughter singing

*St. Dunstan's receives the news of the Armistice, 1918.*

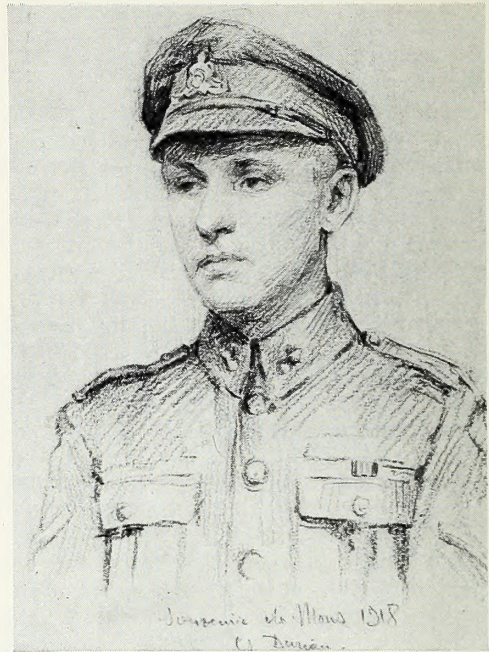




—a very good singer at the time—just beside me he was.”

“All the men came back to the Bungalow from the cemetery. There were an awful lot of us there. Captain Fraser was appointed Chairman. He took Sir Arthur’s death very badly. His speech was broken—he spoke for quite a long time but he had difficulty in speaking. We all felt like that. It was a horrid time.”

To finish this collection of Barney Martin’s memories on a happier note, let us move back in time to Armistice Day, 11th November, 1918. “I was working away at basket making. The word came through and we all got up and went back to the College where everyone got a glass of wine. The V.A.D.’s were all excitement. It was great. I remember one of our fellows, Charlie Williams, he was a time-serving soldier in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, dressed himself up in his peace-time uniform—red tunic, blue trousers, the lot. It was a great day that was. But in the morning we had to go to work.”



*Souvenir de Mons 1918. A. Duriau.*

## Souvenir of Mons

by Leonard Little

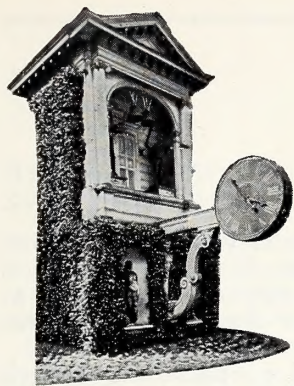
With armistice proclaimed there came to Mons  
The foremost Belgian painter of his time  
To help his widowed sister with such work  
As might seem needed in her garden plot.  
Was it by chance that neath the Brussels sprouts  
Their spades made contact with a metal chest  
Which had lain buried there for four long years?  
What sort of hidden treasure could this be?  
As if they did not know! And what a day  
For Alfred Duriau whose firm belief  
That Germany must ultimately lose  
Was justified! Else had his life’s best work  
Been lost to him and to posterity.

Sister and brother toiled untiringly  
Until by dusk next day their work was done.  
Madame then asked the young Canadian  
Who lodged chez Aristide Blondiau next door  
If he would care to come and pay a call.  
Jim entered quite an ordinary room  
Whose every wall, however, now was hung  
With drawings, etchings, paintings which Madame  
Took pride in showing to the spell-bound guest,  
Making brief comments on her favourites  
And ending with the famous master-piece,  
Man Lancing Javelin, with which was won  
In Nineteen-six the first Grand Prix de Rome.

The language barrier proved not too great  
For some brief anecdotes of army life.  
Then, with large mugs of parsnip coffee drained,  
The artist’s crowning kindness was bestowed.  
He who had painted Albert and his Queen  
Seated an unimportant bombardier  
Upon a kitchen stool, with safety-pins  
Adjusted the ill-fitting uniform,  
Drew up an easel with its wherewithal;  
And as good-nights were said he gave to Jim  
A pencil portrait signed A. Duriau,  
As just a tiny token, he explained,  
Of Belgium’s gratitude to Canada.

Now after five and fifty years have passed  
What news, you wonder, of the Duriaus?  
The celebrated portraitist has died,  
At eighty following an accident.  
His artist son, the sister and her son  
Together with the latter’s family  
All met untimely death in World War Two.  
The painter’s widow, resident of Mons,  
Writes frequently to far-off Canada,  
Glad, it would seem, to keep contact alive  
With one whom her dear husband once had known.





# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

## Expert Advice

It is many years since **Harry Wheeler** gave up his work as a dog breeder, specialising in Chows. In the 1930's before his sight failed after service in two World Wars, he was kennel manager to the late Mr. C. D. Rotch, and bred and handled a famous team of Rochow champions.

His best dog was Champion Rochow Dragoon, still regarded as the finest ever Chow, who won 36 challenge certificates. In all, the kennels won 105 Kennel Club challenge certificates and over 4,000 prizes over a period in which they made ten champions. In 1936, Harry made an appearance on television, then in its early days, demonstrating Chows.

That all this has not been forgotten was proved when Harry was invited to attend a special meeting of the Chinese Chow Club held in Birmingham to discuss the problems of the breed in the present times.

A report in the *Dog World* had this to say of Harry's remarks: "Listening to the many speakers, I felt that veteran Harry Wheeler was the one who had the most constructive advice to offer when he said quite simply: 'Breed to the standard'. Many breeds have been in a worse fix than the Chow is in just now and have got out of it by clear thinking and doing just what Mr. Wheeler advised".

## Making Motoring History

Ken Revis is a St. Dunstaner who is building a dream. Since boyhood he has been a motoring enthusiast and recalls days at Brooklands and at Donnington Park watching the pre-war motor racing ace-drivers in action.

Now he has a new job for British Leyland. He is to be curator of their motor museum, working for a subsidiary company called Leyland Historic Vehicles Ltd. The site for the project is Donnington Park, near Derby, where the motor-racing circuit is still intact and the owner, Tom Wheatcroft, has planning permission to re-open it as a Grand Prix circuit.

The new company has an agreement with Tom Wheatcroft to house his collection of vehicles in two existing halls. "This is something I've wanted to do for years", Ken told me, "We already have more than a hundred cars which we will gradually restore and I am doing a lot of detective work in tracing historic models of marques in the British Leyland Group—a very wide field: Morris, Austin, Wolseley, Riley, M.G., Lanchester, Daimler, Jaguar, Bean, Trojan, Albion, Leyland, A.E.C., Thorneycroft, Guy, Scammell and Coventry-Climax are just a few. We have just bought a fire engine and I have arranged with National Carriers to borrow a mechanical horse—you know, the old fashioned three-wheeled vehicles that towed trailers."

The collection will ultimately cover from 1896 to date. The target is to open the museum by the end of the year but he thinks next spring might be more realistic. "We don't want a museum where the cars stand behind ropes and never move. We plan to restore them all to running order. It will take years but we hope to have a museum with cars that actually run."

So as well as the modern grand prix machines, Donnington Park may one day see and hear the cars of the past using its circuit.



# CLUB NEWS

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## THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

Following proposals made at its first meeting held on April 10th, the Steering Committee are organising a special Mystery Outing on Saturday, July 24th. It will comprise a show, a meal and will end up with a look back into the medieval history of this country. Those taking part are requested to gather at Headquarters *before 4 p.m.* but not later than this. Transport will be laid on, and on the return journey to Headquarters at approximately 10.30 p.m., those wishing to alight at Charing Cross or Victoria Station may do so if it suits them better.

The cost per person will be £3. Since participation is limited to 20 St. Dunstaners with their personal escort, an early application is desirable, together with the appropriate remittance, to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. Nuyens, St. Dunstan's, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London N.W.1.

Should anyone have difficulty in bringing an escort, please let me know, and every effort will be made to provide one, should you so desire.

*PAUL NUYENS*

*Hon. Secretary, Steering Committee*

The final football pontoon finished on Saturday, 24th April, 1976, and the lucky winner was Mrs. F. Dickerson, who wins £6.50, and the lowest, Mr. R. Goding, who wins £1.50.

### Dominoes

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during April were:

1st April

1st **B. Miller**

2nd R. Armstrong

J. Majchrowicz

10th April

1st **J. Majchrowicz**

2nd C. Hancock

29th April

1st **R. Armstrong**

**M. Sheehan**

## MIDLAND

An excellent, well attended meeting was held on Sunday, 11th April. Plenty of dominoes were played and we have now reached the semi-finals of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out competition.

We also had a Bring and Buy sale once again, with plenty of selling going on, and bringing more cash into the club funds.

We were very pleased to welcome another new member, *Harry Waldron* and his wife, I sincerely hope that they enjoyed their first meeting and look forward to seeing them both at future meetings. We were also very pleased to see *Eric Humphreys* back at the club, and also to see Elizabeth Tomporowski, who had been ill and we all sincerely hope that she will continue to get better. How very nice it was to have Mrs. Cath Androlia with us once more, I sincerely hope that now that she has broken the ice, she will feel like coming along quite regularly.

Tea for this meeting was provided for us by Mrs. Joan Cashmore, who prepared another very good home made tea.

## Stan Southall

Everyone had been shaken very badly by the death of *Stan Southall* (reported in the *May Review*), and we all offer our deepest sympathy to his widow, Mrs. Ivy Southall. Stan had been a member of this club for many years and always loved attending, especially when he was concerned in the Domino competitions, he will be sadly missed at all meetings.

On Monday, 12th April, a number of club members and their wives attended Stan's funeral, a wreath in the shape of St. Dunstan's badge was laid on behalf of the club and a cross was laid on behalf of many other St. Dunstaners who knew him, and who had donated towards these flowers at the Birmingham Reunion.

*DOUG CASHMORE*  
*Secretary*



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## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

A most enjoyable evening was held on 30th April, when twenty-five members of the club were entertained by the Royal British Legion at Hassocks.

We were warmly welcomed and hope this visit will be the first of many.

*BOB OSBORNE*

### BRIDGE SECTION

Our fourth pairs match was held on Saturday, 24th April. The winners were:

#### *North-South*

R. Fullard and Miss C. Sturdy 75

#### *East-West*

Miss V. Kemmish and W. Allen 71

### Visit to Horsham

On Sunday, 25th April a St. Dunstan's team of twelve were welcomed with the usual hospitality by the members of Horsham Bridge Club. At the halfway stage, during a delicious tea, it was announced that the St. Dunstan's team was in the lead. At the end of the match, this lead had been increased to 1654 points. After so many defeats in the past, what could we do but celebrate!

### Fifth Brighton Individual

The fifth Brighton individual was held on Saturday, 8th May, with the following results:

A. Dodgson and Partner	72
C. Walters and W. Scott	71
W. Phillips and R. Fullard	64
Miss B. Simon and	
W. Lethbridge	63
P. McCormack and Partner	61
W. Clemments and F. Griffie	59
W. Burnett and Partner	58
J. Padley and R. Bickley	56

*WALTER LETHBRIDGE*

### Dominoes Aggregate, April, 1976

1st	A. Smith
2nd	R. Bickley
3rd	J. Cope

### Whist Aggregate Scores 28th April, 1976

#### *Ladies*

1st	Mrs. H. Smith	91
2nd	Mrs. P. Padley	87
3rd	Mrs. E. M. Dodgson	86

#### *Gentlemen*

1st	H. Preedy	89
2nd	T. Giles	88
3rd	A. Dodgson	86

### BOWLING CLUB REPORT

A Bowling Match was held at Ian Fraser House between St. Dunstons and The Senior County Bowling Officials, this was followed by an excellent tea, provided by the ladies of the Bowling Club. The club President Mrs. E. F. Dacre presided, and complimentary addresses were given by the President of the County Outdoor Bowling Association, and the Chairman of the County Indoor Bowling Association. The Chairman of the Bowling Club responded, and a very pleasant afternoon was had by everyone. The county officials beat St. Dunstons by 7 shots.

*TED FREARSON  
Chairman and Captain*

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### PERSONAL SURVIVAL AWARD

Congratulations to Eddie Allchin in passing his Bronze Award here at the King Alfred Pool, Brighton. He has put in a lot of hard work training for this test and passed it comfortably. He is now busy preparing himself for the Silver.

I would add that any St. Dunstaner who feels he or she is good enough, should take these tests. They are A.S.A. standards and it is one of the few swimming tests on a par with the fully sighted.

Information regarding what is involved can be had from your local swimming pool. If not, it can be sent to you on application to me at Ian Fraser House.

*JOCK CARNOCHAN  
Sports Officer*



## OBITUARY

### Mr. Brian Gorman

St. Dunstaners of the First World War, particularly the musicians among them, will be sad to learn of the death of Brian Gorman in Southampton last month. Mr. Gorman was Musical Director at the Polygon Hotel and played at our Reunion there in March. He made a point of attending St. Dunstan's Reunions at the Polygon because, in 1924, he was pianist for the St. Dunstan's band.

He could recall buying a model 'T' Ford to drive members of the band to their engagements, in those days five or six a week. The repertoire of the band included more than 140 numbers, and they played at the Savoy, Trocadero and the Cafe de Paris.

Brian Gorman was resident band leader at the Polygon Hotel for over thirty years. St. Dunstaners will miss his warm welcome at the next Southampton Reunion.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Alan Naylor** of Mansfield, who joined St. Dunstan's in March. He served in the Royal Air Force from 1953 to 1956, and is married with a family.

**John Henry Tallett** of Coventry, who joined St. Dunstan's in April. He served with the 7th Royal Warwicks in the First World War, and is a widower with one grown-up son.

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

Many congratulations to our St. Dunstaner, **John Marsh Miles**, of Canterbury, who was married on 10th April, to Mrs. Annie Emily Boakes. We wish them every happiness.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Forster** of Leeds are pleased to announce that their daughter, Hilary, was married to Brian Stevens on Saturday, 17th April, at St. John's Church, Moor Allerton, Leeds.

### Pearl Wedding

Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Simpson** of Doncaster, who celebrated their Pearl Wedding on 22nd April, 1976.

### Ruby Wedding

We congratulate **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lewis** of Eccles, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 11th April, 1976.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

**Mr. and Mrs. Les Constable** of Adelaide, South Australia, on the birth of their first

grandchild in January; a son for their eldest daughter and her husband.

**Mr. and Mrs. John Douglass** of Ruislip, on the birth of their first grandchild, a boy born on 29th March to their son Frank and his wife Penny.

**Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Edwards** of Coventry, on the birth of a grandson, Daren, in March to their son Raymond and his wife.

**Mr. and Mrs. John Holden** of Rochdale, on the birth of a grandson, David Rodney, born on 29th March to their daughter Eunice and her husband.

**Mrs. Anne Robinson** on the birth, on 15th April, of a grand-daughter Joanne, to her daughter Alison and her husband.

**Mrs. Margaret Stanway**, whose daughter, Pat, had a daughter, Roxane Lydie, at the end of March.

**Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ward** of Leeds, on the birth of their fourth grandchild, Georgina Fay, born on 13th April to their younger son Christopher and his wife.



## Examination and Career Successes

Congratulations to *Horace Blake* of Ross-on-Wye, who has been elected to the committee of the Ross Photographic Club.

## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Mr. George Allen* of Hull, whose wife, Mollie, died on 30th April, 1976.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas Daborn*, on the death of Mrs. Daborn's mother on 3rd April, 1976.

*Mr. Percy Dent* of Kings Lynn, whose mother died on 21st April, 1976.

*Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lipscombe* of Exeter, on the death of Mrs. Lipscombe's mother in March.

*Mr. Claude Frederick Roughton* of Exmouth, on the death of his brother, in Vancouver in March.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Collis Walters* of Southwick, Sussex, on a double bereavement. Mr. Walters' mother died on 19th April, 1976 in Leek, Staffordshire, and Mrs. Walters' mother died on 21st April in Birmingham.

## In Memory

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It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends

### **Walter Anderson.** *Northumberland Fusiliers*

Walter Anderson, a resident of Pearson House and formerly of North Finchley, London N12, died on 13th April at the age of 81.

Mr. Anderson's sight was damaged in the First World War as a result of a gunshot wound and, when his sight finally deteriorated in 1967, he was admitted to St. Dunstan's.

Among his hobbies, our St. Dunstaner enjoyed typewriting, listening to talking books and gardening, especially working in his greenhouse where he specialised in growing dahlias and chrysanthemums.

He and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding in August, 1969, and Mrs. Anderson died in September last year. In February this year, Mr. Anderson became a resident of Pearson House, where he enjoyed the company of his fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Williamson in Australia, a daughter, Mrs. Disbrey in London, and a stepson, Mr. King and his wife, living in North Finchley.

### **Harry Blundell.** *King's Regiment*

Harry Blundell, of Warrington, Cheshire, died on 4th April, at the age of 62.

He enlisted with the King's Regiment in 1939 and was invalided out in 1942 at the onset of the illness which caused his loss of sight. In January, 1954, he was admitted to St. Dunstan's, by which time his mobility was becoming very restricted but, even so, he was able to take tuition in the making of sea-grass stools and these provided him with a hobby occupation which he carried out with great pleasure for our Stores Department until 1972.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jessie Blundell, and two children, Gwelda and John.

### **John Ernest Storier Edwards.** *Royal Air Force (AAF)*

John Ernest Storier Edwards of Worthing, Sussex, died on 24th April, at the age of 64.

He served in the Second World War and was injured at Kidbrooke in 1944 by a bomb blast. However, despite deteriorating health, he was able to continue with his occupation as a garage foreman fitter with the Police Force until 1969.

Mr. Edwards came to St. Dunstan's in 1975 and, in July of that year, he was given the Air Force Efficiency Award.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Eileen Winifred Edwards, and a son and daughter.

### **Noel Rhys Hughes.** *Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (Anson BN)*

Noel Rhys Hughes of Clevedon, Avon, died on 14th April, at the age of 86.

He was injured at Gallipoli in 1915 but, after his discharge from the Royal Navy, he recovered his health sufficiently to be able to lead an active business life. He owned his own business in Surrey but, after the death of his first wife, he moved to Devon where he married again in 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes shared their love of country and sea life, and Mr. Hughes was able to enjoy his hobbies of gardening and walking.

He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1973. He visited Ian Fraser House on three occasions and enjoyed meeting St. Dunstaners and their families at the Bristol Reunions.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Amy Hughes.



# In Memory

*continued*

## **Joseph Francis Orrin.** *Northants Regiment*

Joseph Francis Orrin of Hove, Sussex, died on April 28th, at the age of 79.

Mr. Orrin served in the First World War, and was wounded in 1917, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1975.

Before his retirement in 1956, our St. Dunstaner was an H.M. Inspector of Taxes. Until ill health prevented him from pursuing his hobbies, he was an author of books on magic and the composer of a number of musical works, none of which were ever submitted for publication, as this was purely a hobby interest.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Emily Orrin, and a daughter, Sylvia.

## **Peter Ross.** *36th Australian Imperial Forces*

Peter Ross, of Liss Forest, Hampshire, died on 19th April, 1976, which was his 78th birthday.

He was wounded in France during the First World War, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He trained as a masseur, and went into practice in Guildford.

After he had retired, he and his wife moved to Hampshire, where they much enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of Liss Forest, gardening being their main hobby.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doris Ross, and seven children.

## **George Smart.** *Royal Army Service Corps*

George Smart, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire died on 29th March at the age of 85.

He enlisted in March, 1915, and served as a Private in the Royal Army Service Corps. He was wounded in 1916, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until August, 1948. About a year later, after moving into a new home, Mr. Smart took up greenhouse work, deriving excellent results from this and his garden. In addition, he was a joiner of some considerable skill and also very adept at French polishing. In the latter years of his life, it was his carpentry which provided his main hobby occupation. Always a very active man, Mr. Smart enjoyed long walks each day, together with his guide dog, in the countryside surrounding his home.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edith Smart.

## **John Walker.** *Royal Field Artillery*

John Walker of Woodingdean, Brighton, died on 7th May 1976 at the age of 78.

He served in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and, on becoming a St. Dunstaner in 1931, undertook a course of training, becoming very proficient in typewriting. He had spent his earlier days on the railway and subsequently was employed as a Park Keeper and Boat Attendant. His fondness for the outdoor life continued throughout his life, and his hobbies included gardening, rugmaking and bowls. He and his wife were keen members of the Brighton Club, where Johnny Walker was particularly active in the Bowling Section. He attended both the Lee-on-Solent and Warminster camps.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Agnes Walker, and a daughter Edna.

## **Henry Edgar Wood.** *King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry*

Henry Edgar Wood, of Doncaster, South Yorkshire, died on 10th April at the age of 84.

Although he served in the First World War, it was while serving as a Private with the K.O.Y.L.I., in which he had enlisted in March, 1940, that Mr. Wood was injured and lost the sight of one eye. Nevertheless, upon discharge from the Army in October, 1941, he was able to work as a coal miner until 1951 when he suffered an injury which robbed him of the sight in his remaining eye. He came to St. Dunstan's in June, 1955, and after a short period of hobby training he was able to undertake string bag making for a while, and also kept an allotment upon which he grew vegetables and kept a few poultry until his age and declining health necessitated his retirement. Up until about eighteen months ago, Mr. Wood was able to travel south to enjoy holidays with us at Brighton.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Beatrice Wood.

## **Albert John Woollen.** *2nd Wiltshire*

Albert John Woollen of Bushey, Hertfordshire, died on 4th May at the age of 83.

Mr. Woollen served during the First World War and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1915, after he had been wounded at Neuve Chapelle. He trained as a physiotherapist and was one of the first eight St. Dunstaners to be trained for this profession. He spent most of his working life at Whipps Cross Hospital, where he was a valued member of the staff, retiring at the end of 1956.

After the death of his wife, Nora, in 1972, our St. Dunstaner made his home with his son, Dr. John Webster Woollen and his wife and family. He also leaves a daughter Mrs. Hazel Legg.





**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**JULY**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO 676

JULY 1976

10p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman

Those St. Dunstaners who live permanently at Pearson House or temporarily at Ian Fraser House will have received a letter from Mr. Wills about the decision made by our Council that a charge would be made to them towards the cost of their keep.

Two of the most important benefits which St. Dunstan's provides are the provision of properties for St. Dunstaners to rent and the provision of accommodation in our Homes for those who become permanent residents.

Because of the present very high rate of inflation, the cost of providing these two benefits has become out of line with other benefits, which are provided generally for St. Dunstaners. It is for this reason that we are reviewing the rents which are at present charged to St. Dunstaners living in our properties and, at the same time, have decided to ask permanent residents, or those who stay in our Homes for more than a continuous period of eight weeks, to make a relatively small contribution towards the cost of their keep.

We have naturally been reluctant to come to these decisions and all cases where hardship might occur to a St. Dunstaner will, as always, be considered individually.

I feel confident that St. Dunstaners will appreciate that a great deal of thought has been given to these matters and will consider these new provisions to be reasonable.

Jon Earnest-Dune

CHAIRMAN

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COVER PICTURE: *At the Liverpool Reunion, Elsie Aldred presents a bouquet to Mrs. Sandys.*



# From the Chairman's Postbag

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**Extract from a letter received from Dr. J. W. Woollen, Bushey, Hertfordshire**

I write to thank you and your staff for sending the wreath to my father's funeral service at Brighton a week ago. The Flanders poppy has always had a deep significance for our family and it seemed fitting to see a wreath of them at the very moving service which marked the end of his life.

My father was a St. Dunstaner for over sixty years and for as long as I can remember his life was given direction and support by this wonderful organisation. This was done with a warmth and humanity of which we were always conscious. It ranged from the tremendous undertaking of rehabilitation and training as a physiotherapist to the continuous concern and support for him and his family manifested in such a variety of acts of real and practical help, financial and otherwise. The provision of the holiday home at Ovingdean, where he ended his days, was a particular joy for him.

During my own, albeit second-hand, acquaintance with St. Dunstan's, I have come to see how it works to direct its members into lives of their own which are as independent and individual as possible, and having done so, continues to sustain them with a never-failing active concern. This is implemented by staff of fine character and ability, and I thank them all most deeply for all they have done to enrich the lives of my father, mother, sister and myself.

I dare not envisage the sort of lives men like my father would have had to lead were it not for the marvellously imaginative and resourceful organisation of which you are Chairman. I hope that as long as it is needed it will long remain as it is, a warm, humane and very real support for a cruelly handicapped group of men and women.

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## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership, The Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.*

**Alfred James Codling** of Cranleigh, Surrey, who joined St. Dunstan's on 17th May, 1976. He was a Private in the Northants Regiment and served in the First World War. He was wounded at Messines Ridge in 1916, but was not discharged until Easter 1919. In civilian life, Mr. Codling was a land worker, which occupation he followed until his retirement about 14 years ago. He is married.

## THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

On the Queen's official birthday, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme sent a telegram of greeting. The text of his telegram and Her Majesty's reply appear below :

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
ON BEHALF OF BLINDED EX-SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT  
THE COMMONWEALTH I WISH YOUR  
MAJESTY MANY HAPPY RETURNS  
OF THE DAY.

**ION GARNETT-ORME**  
**CHAIRMAN ST. DUNSTAN'S**

THE CHAIRMAN ST. DUNSTAN'S  
I SEND YOU AND ALL BLINDED  
EX-SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN  
THROUGHOUT THE COMMON-  
WEALTH MY SINCERE THANKS  
FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE ON THE  
CELEBRATION OF MY BIRTHDAY

**ELIZABETH R**



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From: William Scott, Rottingdean, Sussex**

The passing of Bill Lacey calls to mind very happy memories of the times we had at various camps when he was always the life and soul of our party. At Little Gaddesden and North Runton he was ever ready with his banjo and many impromptu verses of "Weezy Anna".

Bill could tell a good story, as when he was feeling around a currant bush on his allotment when he touched some fruit as large as grapes. He made his way back to his wife and brought her to see them. It turned out that a couple of windfall plums had lodged themselves on a twig.

He was a great sport who also enjoyed his handicrafts and, in spite of his age, would take part in any activity with us. In his early days, he was associated with Tottenham Hotspur. Latterly, he often expressed gratitude to the local members of the Red Cross for their kindness and attention.

Bill enjoyed his stay at Pearson House, but could not make up his mind whether to leave grown-up members of his family. He was very loyal to St. Dunstan's.

Bill Lacey joins a happy band of "Old Timers" such as Sammy Webster, Johnny Walker and Bert Woollen, who have passed on this year. I am proud to have known such men and will remember them with gratitude.

**From: Margaret Stanway, Macclesfield, Cheshire**

I would like to thank Phillip Wood for the way he condenses in the *Review* some of the books he reads and I, for one, am helped in making my selection from the catalogue. Admittedly every book is not my cup of tea but, as Sir Winston Churchill said, "We cannot please all of the people all of the time . . .".

# READING TIME

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*Cat. No. 278*

**The Golden Ass**

by Apuleius

*Read by Duncan Carse*

*Reading Time 9½ hours*

Apuleius lived during the second century A.D. and was educated in Rome and Athens. He travelled widely on what we would nowadays call lecture tours. *The Golden Ass* is the best-known of his surviving works.

It takes the form of a fictional autobiography written by one Lucius whilst travelling in a foreign country. The women there are chiefly remarkable for their powerful magic and a nasty habit of transforming anyone they happen not to like into practically any form of low animal life.

But the metamorphosis of Lucius is entirely accidental, being due to the honest

blunder of a current girlfriend, something of a tyro in the art of witchcraft.

The rest of the book is taken up with his hair-raising adventures as an ass, and he spends most of the time being starved and beaten by a succession of villains. But it all ends happily with Lucius being changed back into his original shape by a kindly Goddess.

The book is a delightful mix of mythology, folklore and magic, with enough violence, bloodshed, marital infidelity and general skulduggery to satisfy the most avid reader of modern fiction.

William Adlington's beautiful 1566 translation adds charm and piquancy to a book which he hopes will serve "... to generate their (the readers') minds from brutish and beastly custom".

And if it doesn't, it's very pleasant to be addressed as "gentle and studious reader"!



Cat. No. 1599

### **Apparitions and Ghosts**

by Andrew MacKenzie

*Read by David Strong*

*Reading Time 8 hours*

The author is a member of the Society for Psychical Research and his book recounts many well-authenticated hauntings. Each case is dealt with in depth and compared with similar phenomena, some recent, some going back many years.

What struck me forcibly was the fact that, without exception, all the ghosts and apparitions are a sober and un-adventurous lot. They don't *do* anything. They just *appear*. Their lives (if that's the right word) must be deadly dull to the point of excruciating boredom! In fact, there's not one single clanking chain, screaming skull, nor headless horseman in the whole book!

Still, if you do happen to be of a nervous disposition, the thought of all those ghosts just going about quietly minding their own business, could I suppose, be quite a comfort!

Cat. No. 429

### **Bhowani Junction**

by John Masters

*Read by Garard Green*

*Reading Time 17½ hours*

It is May 1946. Victoria Jones has returned home to Bhowani to await demobilisation. Times are changing in the railway town. There are the first rumblings of discontent and hostility against British rule.

Victoria's attitudes are changing too. An Anglo-Indian, she is faced with the growing need to find an identity in post-war India.

She is ordered to report for duty to Colonel Savage, commanding the Gurkhas in Bhowani. He is a tough sardonic war-wise regular soldier and there soon develops a clash of personalities.

Victoria exchanges European dress for the sari, and to complete the transformation, agrees to Ranjit Singh's persuasion to convert to Sikhism. But she cannot go through with the ceremony and rushes blindly from the temple. She boards a

train, neither knowing nor caring where it is going. On the train she meets Savage...

The story develops against a background of rising national tension and local disturbance. A train is derailed. There is mounting Hindu-Moslem antagonism. A dangerous Communist terrorist is on the loose.

And in the middle, the tragi-comic Anglo-Indian community. "... they despise 'the natives', call England 'Home', speak with a Welsh accent—and wear topees at midnight..."

The book has all the ingredients which go to make a first-class story—love and hate, prejudice and tolerance, wisdom and foolishness. A splendid yarn—once serialised on BBC Radio 4.

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### **"... Were You There?"**

One Sunday recently, Tom Taylor was guest preacher at Goose Green Methodist Church, Leyland, Lancs. Unknown to him, in the congregation was a fellow Burma War Veteran, Eddie Hampson. They were introduced to one another by church officials and in the course of conversation Tom mentioned he was wounded in the Battle of San Pan Gon. Eddie asked if he was the soldier who had been left wounded on the battlefield for seven days. "Yes", replied Tom. "Well, I was the bloke who brought you in", said Eddie.

In January, 1945, Tom had been shot through the head and left for dead during an attack on Japanese positions on the bank of the Irrawaddy. The Japanese had stripped him of his uniform thinking he was dead. But when Eddie Hampson, a medical orderly leading a reconnaissance patrol in no-man's land, came by, Tom, hearing their voices, managed to attract their attention.

"The coincidence of meeting Eddie after all these years was almost beyond belief", said Tom. "The theme of my sermon was prosperity in the middle of poverty: and it made me think back to the time when my life seemed so desolate. Yet even in desolation precious and wonderful things still occur—the meeting with Eddie was one of them."



## Mr. A. G. FULLER

Our Dental Surgeon, Mr. A. C. Fuller, held his last Surgery at St. Dunstan's on 30th June and retires from dental practice.

As honorary Dental Surgeon at Ovingdean and latterly at Pearson House since 1946 he has attended the dental needs of very many St. Dunstaners and Staff.

Mr. Fuller has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the activities in the Brighton Homes and we wish him health and contentment in his retirement.

Commandant has had a number of enquiries from St. Dunstaners and Staff who would like to contribute to a token of our regard and has agreed to receive any subscriptions.

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## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

The Derby Sweepstake again proved very popular this year. There were twenty-three runners and the pay-out was as follows:

**1st Prize** K. Cooper, Ian Fraser House  
*Empery* Ticket No. 2494 £266

**2nd Prize** A. Ward Smith, Falmouth  
*Relkino* Ticket No. 1282 £159.60

**3rd Prize** J. R. Burton, Portchester  
*Oats* Ticket No. 2579 £53.20

All those holding a ticket for the remaining twenty horses received the sum of £2.66.

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## BRIDGE NOTES

### ST. DUNSTAN'S v MASTERS

The annual match of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club v Masters was held on Saturday, 5th June, at Headquarters. Three full teams and one scratch team competed for the St. Dunstan's side. How unbelievable it may seem, the scratch team, composed of H. Meleson, S. Lightening, J. Majchrowicz and Mrs. Meleson, were handsomely first, their minus score being less than half of that of the second team. Congratulations and well done.

The Masters winning team were Mr. Thompson, Mr. Young, Mr. Maeer and Mr. Steckelmacher. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Green who directed the match.

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## THE HARVEST

by Thomas Bradley

Gentle winds draw patterns o'er the corn,  
Whose sturdy straws uphold the ripened ear.  
Inclement weather caused the anxious wait;  
But now the combine-harvester is here.

The peacefulness of early-rising day  
Is shattered by this modern robot scythe;  
This many-handed mopper-up of crops;  
Which speedily and surely carves his way.

This clamorous monster storms around the field,  
Devouring all and grimly spewing straw;  
Snorting chaff, and coughing diesel gas;  
But, storing wealth of golden grain in sack.

The corn is ripe, and must be got;  
The field is dry, the sun is hot.  
What e'er befall, the barn must hold  
This crop of gold ere night does fold.

From the centre of this wonted haven;  
This field of food and shelter long enjoyed;  
Was heard a sudden menace, chill as death,  
Encircling every bound of their retreat.

As madly round and round the combine surged,  
Each lap a little shorter than the last,  
The fateful open space twixt corn and copse,  
With every round grew dangerously wide.

The wild things sickly paralysed with fear  
Crept closer to the centre of their hide;  
Afraid to cross the naked open stubble  
Laid bare by shouting, shooting deadly men.

A pheasant made a sudden panic flight.  
On whirring wings he sought to reach the copse;  
A gun cracked out; he steeply dived to earth,  
And futile feathers lightly floated down.

A rabbit made a dash to gain the wood;  
A shouting farmer's lad, and dog gave chase;  
So close were they, no gun dared speak  
And sobbing rabbit scuttled underground.

A water-hen made fearful flopping flight,  
To seek the reedy shelter of the pond;  
She was not worth the powder or the shot,  
And so the carnal exhibition closed.

The sacks of grain were proudly gathered in,  
And stacked in rows, like portly Aldermen.  
The harvester went rumbling down the lane,  
To keep his tryst with Farmer Lewis Jones.

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*At Manchester Sid Jones, Joe Lewis, Thomas Bradley, Edwin Kippax and Harry Hocking pose with Dr. Donald Hopewell.*

photo: Salford City Reporter.

# REUNIONS

## MANCHESTER

"I bring you a special message of affection and remembrance from Lady Fraser. She will be thinking about us all the time that we are gathered together here, and I know there is nothing more near to her heart than that she should be able again to come to some of our Reunions and meet the men of St. Dunstan's and their wives".

With these words, Dr. Donald Hopewell, the longest serving member of St. Dunstan's Council, opened his speech after lunch at the Midland Hotel on Thursday, 13th May. The arrangements had been made with their customary efficiency, by Mrs. Ballantyne and Miss Broughton, who were again assisted by Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. Harris and Miss Coop. 103 people sat down to lunch, including 12 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 31 from the Second World War or later. Mr. John Brady, retired member of the staff, was an honoured guest.

We were glad to welcome Mr. Howard Langley of Radio Manchester

to another Manchester Reunion. Mr. Langley interviewed Dr. Hopewell and four St. Dunstaners after lunch, and produced a thirty-minute programme which was broadcast by Radio Manchester's Torchlight programme on 23rd and 24th May.

### Happy Years

"Now I am not by birth a Lancastrian", continued Dr. Hopewell, "but I can claim to be a Lancastrian by adoption. I spent thirty happy years of my life in the most beautiful part of your county, the valley of the River Lune, and I grew to become tremendously fond of that river and Lancashire folk. And, therefore, it is always a pleasure to come back to Lancashire". Dr. Hopewell went on to express sympathy to the widows of St. Dunstaners who had passed on during the year, with special mention of those whose widows were present at the Reunion: Mrs. Bower, Mrs. McClintock and Mrs. Smith. However, we were still



gaining St. Dunstaners, said Dr. Hopewell, and he welcomed James Costello, Garstang, Robert Dewhurst, Bolton, Edwin Kippax, Burnley, and Harold Greenhalgh, Bolton (although the latter was not actually present). "And though they have come to St. Dunstan's rather late in their careers, we hope that they will be very happy with us and that they will find at St. Dunstan's the friendship which all St. Dunstaners give, the one to the other".

Dr. Hopewell then gave his audience the names of members of the staff present, and concluded: "I look forward to seeing you again at some future time. In the meantime, I wish you well, great happiness, good health and good fortune in the years to come".

Mr. Wills then introduced John McDermott from Manchester, who proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. He thanked Dr. Hopewell for his speech, Miss Broughton and Mrs. Ballantyne for the arrangements and the hotel staff for an excellent meal.

After lunch, there was dancing to the music of the Harry Simons Band, much conversation and the customary raffle.

## LIVERPOOL

Turn left out of Liverpool Lime Street Station and just a few minutes' walk through the bracing Mersey breeze that always seems to be blowing will bring you to the Adelphi Hotel, scene of many St. Dunstan's Reunions.

95 people gathered there on 15th May for the sixth Reunion of the 1976 series. Presiding over the occasion was Major M. E. M. Sandys, a member of our Council, accompanied by Mrs. Sandys. The 41 St. Dunstaners—7 from the First World War and 34 from the Second World War or later—included Miss Elsie Aldred, Warrington and Mrs. Vi Delaney of Liverpool. Among their guests were Dr. and Mrs. D. L. Charters. Few of our readers will need to be reminded of Dr. Charters' work for war-blinded men in German P.O.W. camps in the Second World War.

After lunch, Major Sandys proposed the silent toast and then welcomed St. Dunstaners and guests on behalf of the Council. He referred to Dr. and Mrs.

Charters, Mrs. J. Harris and Miss Midgley, former Northern Area Welfare Superintendent. He then mentioned the names of Headquarters' staff at the Reunion, paying tribute to the work they carry out.

"We have three new members here today", continued Major Sandys, "They are George Nolan of Ellesmere Port, Ernest Patterson of Birkenhead, and Charles Crewe, aged 91, and perhaps I should mention their ladies as well. I know that you would wish me to extend a hearty welcome to them all and we hope that we shall have the pleasure of their company at many future Reunions".

After giving the current statistical information on St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom and overseas, Major Sandys referred to the casualties from Northern Ireland saying, "There seems to be no end to that sad and unnecessary conflict, but it is just part of a much larger pattern throughout the world when people resort to violence at the drop of a hat to resolve differences and disputes.

## Different World

"Now most of you today are the same generation as myself—some are older—and we can remember a very different world. One where, with all its manifest injustices and imperfections, any single one of our present day news broadcasts would have brought such a wave of shock and horror that it would have been a talking point for weeks. Today, we are so hardened and inured to violence in the world that the daily ration is served up with scarcely any comment".

Major Sandys, however, takes an optimistic view, "There are many straws in the wind which I think show that things will improve. There are more people than ever—especially among the young people—coming forward to offer themselves for various forms of community service.

"I think that also it is realised that selfishness in pursuit of economic advantage is somewhat self-defeating, at least if it is pursued to its bitter end".

It was all part of an evolutionary process over the past fifty years, Major Sandys suggested, and in this country, because of its power in the 19th and earlier 20th Centuries, people had taken longer to adapt to the changed circumstances of





*Mrs. Ballantyne introduces Charles Crewe of Liverpool, at 91 attending his first Reunion, to Harry Boseley of Wallasey, in the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.*

their country than other nationalities. "But I do see signs that perhaps things are going to come right, and I hope that we shall all live to see it happen".

He had a special word of welcome for St. Dunstaners' wives before concluding, as he put it, on a hopeful and pleasurable note: "A pleasure that we are all able to meet here, exchange ideas, exchange stories and let us hope that, over the years to come, we may be able to come to this Reunion and renew old friendships and acquaintances on what I trust will be a happy and very enjoyable occasion for all of you. Please have a very happy afternoon".

Mr. Wills, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, also welcomed the company and, at the conclusion of his remarks, called upon Ted John, of Wallasey, to propose the vote of thanks.

After expressing thanks to Mrs. Ballantyne, Welfare Visitor responsible, and Miss Broughton, who assisted her, Ted John had a special word for Miss Mosley, saying that all St. Dunstaners were pleased to know that her mother's health was improving. Then, turning to

Major Sandys, he said, "This is the first time that I have sat on the same bench as a magistrate, Sir, at least on this side and it is a great pleasure for me to meet you for the first time".

Of St. Dunstan's, Ted said, "It has its own 'Age Concern', its many action groups, its 'Citizen's Advice Bureau', its 'Department of Health and Social Security' and also its own 'Housing Department'. When you get one organisation which embodies all these facets then it really is *some* organisation".

Ted thanked the staff of the Adelphi Hotel and that of St. Dunstan's for their kindness and consideration. "The words on so many letters epitomise what St. Dunstan's means. On their signatory remarks in practically all their letters are the words: 'With kind regards and best wishes, Yours sincerely'."

The last of the formalities was the presentation, to much applause, of a bouquet to Mrs. Sandys by St. Dunstaner Elsie Aldred. There followed dancing and a great deal of talk before tea and the prize draw brought the afternoon to a close.



## BRIGHTON

A June morning at its best and brightest welcomed St. Dunstaners and guests arriving at the Hotel Metropole on the Brighton sea front on Saturday, 5th June for the seventh 1976 Reunion. Including three of our lady members, there were 107 St. Dunstaners present, 29 from the First World War and 78 from the Second World War or later.

In all, 252 people attended the Reunion which was presided over by our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, accompanied by Mrs. Garnett-Orme. The principal guests were the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton, Councillor and Mrs. P. E. W. Best, and other guests included Mrs. F. D. Opperman, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, South Africa, and Mr. Opperman, Mr. K. S. C. Phillips, Chairman, Sussex Grocers' Association, and Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre.

### Chairman's Speech

After lunch, Mr. Garnett-Orme rose to propose the Silent Toast before greeting St. Dunstaners and guests. He said:

"This Reunion at Brighton is always one of our happiest annual gatherings and the citizens of Brighton have extended their friendship and hospitality to St. Dunstaners since our earliest days. We are, therefore, very pleased that Councillor and Mrs. Peter Best, the Mayor and Mayoress, have snatched time from their many duties to join us this afternoon.

"Our numbers here today are about 250 and I give you all a warm welcome, especially those St. Dunstaners whose first Reunion this is: Eric Ould from Southwick, Charles Shepherd from Bosham and Robert Hollingworth from Ian Fraser House.

"Also with us are Mr. and Mrs. Opperman from South Africa. Our fellow St. Dunstaners 6000 miles away where winter is just starting are indeed fortunate to have Mrs. Opperman as their Chairman, or perhaps I should say their 'Madam Chair'. The links between our two organisations, which were so well laid and firmly cemented by Lord Fraser, are close, and many St. Dunstaners from here, visiting South Africa, have experienced



*Mr. Garnett-Orme greets our St. Dunstaner Louise Farrow.*

the generous hospitality which is always extended to them.

"From Australia, we welcome Colonel Rex Hall. Colonel Hall is Chairman of the Victoria Blinded Soldiers' Welfare Trust, and we are very pleased to have him with us this afternoon.

"Here too are some of our longstanding friends and helpers including Mr. Phillips, the Chairman of the Sussex Grocers' Association, Mrs. Dacre, who we are all delighted to see here, and Miss Riley. You will also be able to meet some good friends who have returned from retirement to be with us this afternoon. These are Mrs. Avison, Miss Carlton, Miss Ramshaw, Mr. George and Mr. Rice".

Mr. Garnett-Orme then mentioned staff present from the Brighton Homes and Headquarters, referring particularly to Miss Rogers, "You will have read in the *Review* that Miss Rogers retires at the end of June, and so this will be her last Brighton Reunion in her official capacity. We shall be saying our official good-bye to her at the London Reunion on 10th July. Nevertheless, all of us here wish her a very happy retirement".

Our Chairman then referred to another retirement: "I have left until last to mention two of our guests today, Mr. and





*Laughter during Councillor Best's speech.*

Mrs. Fuller, because I know you will be sad to hear that Mr. Fuller has decided it is time for him to retire. More than thirty years ago, Mr. Fuller joined St. Dunstan's from the Navy on a three months' trial to see how he liked us, and not only has he looked after our dental health at Brighton with great skill ever since, but he has become a personal friend of many St. Dunstaners. Mr. Fuller will be much missed here, and on behalf of us all I thank him for everything he has done for us and wish him and Mrs. Fuller many years of happy retirement".

From Lady Fraser, Mr. Garnett-Orme brought a message of love and best wishes and her regrets that her health prevented her visiting Brighton for the Reunion. Then, saying that he hesitated to talk about Brighton in front of the Mayor, he continued: "Knowing what keen fishermen many St. Dunstaners are, I thought they might be interested in a bit of history which the Mayor looks to me too young to contradict from personal experience.

### **Doomsday Book**

"According to the Doomsday Book, compiled in 1086, the three manors of Brighton had only a very small population and they were taxed to pay 4,000 herrings a year. However, history relates that this was not such a heavy burden as it might seem, since this number of fish could easily be caught by a few fishermen

in two or three days. It would seem that during the last 900 years, humans have decided that Brighton is the place for them but the herring shoals have found a better home somewhere else".

Responding to Mr. Garnett-Orme, Councillor Best expressed thanks for St. Dunstan's hospitality on behalf of all the guests. He continued: "I'm afraid that I really knew very little about St. Dunstan's, although I've lived in Brighton all my life. I've already learned a lot today and, incidentally, hearing your speech, I have learned a little bit more about Brighton as well". Saying that he hoped to have the opportunity of visiting Ian Fraser House and Pearson House during his year of office, the Mayor concluded with a further expression of thanks.

Speaking for St. Dunstaners, Ted Frearson reiterated Mr. Garnett-Orme's welcome to the Mayor and Mayoress and wished them a very happy and rewarding year of office. He continued, "Today it is my job to offer a vote of thanks to St. Dunstan's. This I do with very great pleasure because we all owe so much to St. Dunstan's. Don't judge them too harshly because you don't get everything you want. In the economic climate of this country today any organisation, whether it be business or charity, has great difficulty in surviving. Please be a little tolerant when you come up with your demands.

### **Miss Rogers**

"I would just like to bring Miss Rogers' name into my speech. Miss Rogers, you have served us well. We have brought our problems to you, and I say this to you, who have looked after so many of us for so long, and you have done it so well, thank you very much. On behalf of all the St. Dunstaners here, I wish you a very happy and long retirement".

Ted Frearson concluded by thanking the staff of the Metropole Hotel and the Welfare Visitors responsible for the Reunion arrangements, Miss Stewart and Miss Blebta.

That concluded the formal part of the programme but during the afternoon there was dancing to the Ken Lyon Orchestra and tea before the company dispersed into the June sunshine.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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To begin at the end—for there's no fun in doing the predictable—the last evening in May saw us tripping the light fantastic at the Spring Bank Holiday Dance. There was friendliness and good humour in abundance, and a happy evening passed very quickly. There were a few aching muscles the following morning, but as Grannie used to say with smug satisfaction: "You have to pay for your pleasures, dear".

One welcome innovation this month has been the presentation of recorded and taped programmes by St. Dunstaners. The first of these was given by Bob Hollingworth, and was entitled *The Instruments of the Orchestra*. The subject is one about which Bob is knowledgeable, for he played the French horn in the band of the famous Green Howards. The programme featured in turn, strings, woodwind and percussion, and finished with that glorious crescendo of sound, *The 1812 Overture*. Taped programmes were also presented by Tom Page, and contained a variety of music, verse and song. Some of the humour was decidedly "earthy Blackpool" in style, and was much enjoyed by the Northerners present—and quite a number of Southerners too, judging by the laughter. We hope that other St. Dunstaners will "have a go" at entertaining us from time to time.

## Nucleus Theatre Group

Other concerts in the house have met with general approval: the Nucleus Theatre Group, presented the famous farce *Thark* (and try announcing that!) with great success. There was a large cast, of which two young male readers were particularly talented. That very accomplished Group, the Brunswick Readers, presented *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime* by Oscar Wilde, and though we enjoyed it, the highlight of the evening was a curtain-raiser, *Superannuated Winnie the Pooh*. It was a monologue, written by that witty contributor to *Punch*, Alan Coren. Poor old Pooh, fifty years on, was

creaking in every joint, and suffering from terminal moth. He revealed that he had never been the sweet, cuddly, honey-loving Pooh of fiction. Inside that lovable exterior lurked a sophisticated, hard-bitten bear-around-town, longing to set audiences alight with his rendering of "Body and Soul". Another illusion shattered! It was great fun, and we are grateful for the time and effort spent so unselfishly on our behalf.

Racegoing began in earnest during May. We visited Brighton, Goodwood and Fontwell Park. The latter outing took place on Spring Bank Holiday Monday. The twice-weekly drives were augmented by drives for the chair-borne, a visit to Drusilla's at Alfriston, proving very popular.

## Old Friends

Our old and valued friends, Dolly Harmer and Cyril Haslett, entertained us one Tuesday evening with *Four Hands, One Piano*. St. Dunstaner Ken Revis sang in French, and Escort Sister, quite carried away by the Bohemian atmosphere, borrowed a white cane and did a soft-shoe shuffle. She expects her cards any day now! (Lew Grade, please note). The Brighton Recording Club gave us a most interesting programme one evening, comprising interviews with well-known people, and some delightful music. On Bank Holiday Sunday the Brenton Singers from Harrow entertained us with a varied and most delightful programme. Victor Buck thanked them on our behalf, with the hope that they will visit us again soon. Speaking of singing, we have the Sussex Police Choir visiting us on Tuesday, 27th July, and hope that as many locally resident St. Dunstaners will join us as is possible.

On Bank Holiday Sunday the Chapel was well-filled for Morning Service. As we walked sedately to our pews, the organ played softly. The music seemed familiar—what was it? Enlightenment dawned—it was Glenn Miller's signature tune! Unexpected, but nice.



The last Saturday in the month saw the Whist Drive and Dominoes Tournament.

As we were short of gentlemen whist players, one of the ladies kindly agreed to a temporary male-impersonation. We couldn't help being somewhat relieved that she just failed to win a gentleman's prize—we've heard of ladies wearing a scent called "Charlie", but "Brut After-Shave" is ridiculous.

Next month we shall report our adventures and misadventures at the Derby, and other excitements. Until then, hasta la vista !

## Whist

### Ladies

1st	Mrs. M. Stanway
2nd	Mrs. A. Smith
3rd	Miss J. Briant

### Gentlemen

1st	A. Smith
2nd	B. Ingre
3rd	F. Griffie

## Dominoes

1st	G. Stanley
2nd	A. Robinson
3rd	J. Griffiths

# CLUB NEWS

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## THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

There are still a few seats available for St. Dunstaners and escorts on the Mystery Outing arranged for Saturday, 24th July. The cost per person is £3 and applications, with appropriate remittance, should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Paul Nuyens, St. Dunstan's, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5QN.

St. Dunstaners living in the Greater London area may be interested to know that the London Transport Executive will announce shortly that from 18th July, holders of old age pensioners' and blind bus passes, will be able to travel on London Transport rail services for a maximum single fare of 20p.

**PAUL NUYENS**

*Hon. Secretary, Steering Committee*

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during May were :

6th May	1st	R. Armstrong
	2nd	C. Hancock
13th May	1st	J. Majchrowicz
	2nd	C. Hancock
20th May	1st	R. Armstrong
	2nd	B. Phillips
		M. Sheehan
27th May	1st	S. Khabbazi
	2nd	M. Sheehan

## MIDLAND

Our May meeting was rather a quiet affair after the excellent one in April but, nevertheless, we had a good get together.

## Semi-finals

We had hoped to reach the final of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out competition this month but, unfortunately, one of the contestants did not attend the meeting so we had to be satisfied with just playing off one of the semi-finals. This was between Bruno Tomporowski and Tom O'Connor, and the result went in Tom's favour—much to everyone's surprise, including Tom's.

The tea arrangements for this meeting were in the hands of Mrs. Connie Faulkner and it was a very nice spread including lemon meringue, smashing Con, we all thanked her in our usual manner.

## Outings

The final details and times were announced regarding our outing in July to Symonds Yat, and we then made plans for a half day trip to Church Stretton in August and our usual visit to Stratford in October.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary*



## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

We were very pleased to see members of the club who were on holiday attending our monthly dance on 15th May, which once again proved most successful. Music was provided by the Geoff Donaldson Band, and Mr. Alf Garstang was our efficient M.C.

All St. Dunstaners and escorts will be welcome to our next dance to be held on Saturday, 10th July.

BOB OSBORNE

## BRIDGE SECTION

On Saturday, 15th May an enjoyable afternoon was spent playing a match against our friends from the Saltdean Bridge Circle. Result: a victory for our visitors.

Our fifth pairs match was held on Saturday, 22nd May. The winners were:

### North-South

Miss B. Simon and Miss C. Sturdy 80

### East-West

F. Griffie and Mrs. E. Gover 83

WALTER LETHBRIDGE

## Dominoes Aggregate, May 1976

1st J. Langley

2nd T. Mugan

Mrs. J. Aldridge

Ladies and Mens fives and threes will be playing the finals from the end of June.

## Whist Aggregate Scores 26th May 1976

### Ladies

1st Mrs. H. Webster 86

2nd Mrs. S. Meleson 84

3rd Mrs. M. Crabtree 83

Mrs. H. Smith

Mrs. E. Walch

### Gentlemen

1st T. Giles 89

2nd W. Holmes 88

3rd A. Dodgson 83

## BOWLING CLUB REPORT

At the Bowling Club A.G.M. the following officials were elected: Ted Frearson, Chairman and Captain, Henry Preedy, Vice Chairman and Vice Captain, Edward Quinn and William Burnett, Committee Members, Mrs. L. Dennis, Treasurer and Mrs. P. Jones, Secretary. Henry Preedy was also selected to represent the Bowling Club on the Management Committee of the Social and Sports Club.

During the last month, three away matches were played at Southampton, Ottershaw and Guildford. A very pleasant afternoon was had at the respective clubs. We enjoyed our reunion with our friends from previous years.

TED FREARSON

Chairman and Captain

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## FAMILY NEWS

### Marriages

Mrs. Sadie Stokes of Bury, Lancashire, is pleased to announce that her son, Thomas, was married on Thursday, 22nd April to Miss Christine Evans of Chorley.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Waters of Seven-oaks are pleased to announce that their daughter, Valerie, was married to Mr. Malcolm Chapman at the United Reform Church, Sanderstead, on 12th June.

### Ruby Wedding

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Thomas William Chamberlain, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 3rd June, 1976.

### Golden Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jackman of Brentford, Middlesex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 23rd May, 1976.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Fullard of Saltdean, on the birth of their first grandchild, a boy, Stephen Robert Lloyd, born on 1st April to their son Martin and his wife Gerrie.



*Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hoyle* of Chadder-ton, on the birth of their fourth grandchild, a boy, born on 10th May, to their daughter Joan and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westby* of Morecambe, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Lindsay Marie, on 7th May to their daughter Jean and her husband.

### **Examination and Career Successes** **We warmly congratulate:**

*Muriel Bryant* of Midsomer Norton, who has been awarded a silver plaque by the Department of Health War Pensions Home and Art Competition, for the Arran cardigan which she knitted and which was exhibited at their National Exhibition in London recently.

## **In Memory**

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**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends**

### **Donald Baker. Royal Air Force**

Donald Baker of Rhyl, North Wales, died on 23rd May, 1976 at the age of 54.

Mr. Baker served in the Royal Air Force from July 1940 and lost his sight through a detonator explosion in 1941. Later that year, he came to St. Dunstan's where he was trained for physio-therapy and, after passing his examinations, he became an Assistant Instructor with us at Church Stretton. When St. Dunstan's moved back to Brighton at the end of the War, Mr. Baker remained in Shrewsbury in private practice until 1951 when he moved to Rhyl to take up a position at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. He was a popular and well respected member of the hospital staff and, in due course, became Assistant Superintendent of his department. He also carried out private practice.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Netta Baker, a daughter and two sons.

### **William Baker. Royal Engineers**

William Baker of Llanrug, Gwynedd, died on 5th May, 1976 aged 86.

He enlisted in 1915 and served as a Private with the Royal Engineers until January 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in February 1930 and took up basket making as his profession. He was an excellent craftsman and over the years enjoyed making a large variety of baskets both for St. Dunstan's and private sale until he took his retirement in 1962.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Gladys Baker, and two married daughters.

*James Caldwell* of Stockport, who has passed his Amateur Radio examination with credit—and did it in three months.

## **Deaths**

### **We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Mr. and Mrs. John Bailey* of Guildford, on the death of Mrs. Bailey's mother earlier this year.

*Mr. George Broughton*, of Alford, whose wife, Doris Irene, died on 23rd May.

*Mr. Edward Sayer* of Deal, Kent, whose sister died recently.

### **Charles William Barrett. Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (7th)**

Charles William Barrett of Aylesbury, died on 19th April, 1976, at the age of 76.

Mr. Barrett served with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry during the First World War and was wounded in 1917. After the war, he joined his father in the building and decorating trade until about 1930, when he became a Clerk for the Ministry of Supply until his premature retirement, due to ill health, in 1957.

His wife, Mrs. Ethel Louise Barrett, died in 1969, when our St. Dunstaner went to live with one of his daughters, Mrs. E. M. Jackson and her husband who cared for him devotedly.

Mr. Barrett was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1960 and was a frequent visitor to Pearson House and to Ian Fraser House.

He leaves three daughters, Mrs. E. M. Jackson, Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Taylor.

### **Albert Birley. Leicestershire Regiment**

Albert Birley of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, died on 22nd April, 1976 at the age of 71.

He served as a Private with the Leicestershire Regiment from June 1915 until March 1919 and suffered the loss of his sight as a result of a gun shot wound. Mr. Birley became a St. Dunstaner in April, 1967, but was by then in rather poor health and for the last seven years he had been cared for in the St. Andrew's Nursing Home in Sleaford.

He was a widower and leaves three children.



# In Memory

*Continued*

**Alfred Henry William James.** *2nd Wessex Field Ambulance*

Alfred Henry William James of Margate, died on 4th June, 1976 at the age of 83.

Mr. James was wounded in France in 1916. In civilian life he had been a fitter but on admission to St. Dunstan's in 1919, he undertook training in boot repairing, mat-making and telephony and reached a high standard of proficiency. For many years, Mr. James was employed as a Telephonist at the London Hospital but, due to deteriorating health, he retired in 1948 and moved to Margate with his wife, Mrs. Esther Grace James, who died in 1971. For the past four years he had been devotedly cared for by his housekeeper Mrs. Gwen Styles.

He leaves one son, Mr. John James, of Eltham.

**William Henry Lacey.** *Royal Army Service Corps*

William Henry Lacey of Leigh-on-Sea, died on 23rd May, 1976 at the age of 90.

He served with the Royal Army Service Corps during the First World War. In his youth he had been a famous footballer and played for Tottenham Hotspur in about 1910. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1930 and, after a period of industrial training, Mr. Lacey was employed in basket making and chair work for our Stores. He then obtained outside employment in a factory working on assembly, where he remained until his retirement, when he resumed basket making and, with a high standard of competence, continued to supply a quota of work for our Stores. He was a music-lover and on the occasion of Lord Fraser's 50th year as Chairman, he composed a special song.

Since the death of his wife, Mrs. Eleanor Louise Lacey in 1972, he lived with Mr. and Mrs. Ray of Leigh-on-Sea and their family.

He leaves a son, Mr. W. Lacey, and two daughters, Mrs. Wagstaff and Mrs. Elven.

**Edward Myatt.** *Kings Fifth Liverpool Regiment*

Edward Myatt of Liverpool, died on 15th April, 1976, aged 79.

He served as a Private in the Kings 5th Liverpool Regiment from March 1915 to March 1919 and lost his sight as a result of mustard gas poisoning, but it was not until September 1972 that he became a St. Dunstaner. Mr. Myatt had held a clerical position until reaching retirement age.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Amy Myatt, and two married sons.

**Arthur Gordon Relf.** *Royal Navy*

Arthur Gordon Relf of Tunbridge Wells, died on 19th May, 1976 at the age of 71.

He joined the Navy at 16 years of age as a Seaman, ultimately rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1946 and, after a period of training at Ovingdean, Mr. Relf took over a confectionery and tobacconist's shop with attached hair-dressing salon, which he ran for a few years with the able assistance of his wife. However, on moving to Tunbridge Wells in 1957, the business was sold and our St. Dunstaner undertook a further period of training in carpentry and joinery, subsequently undertaking work for our Stores, in which capacity he was still employed until recently. Mr. Relf was very fond of music and at one time his greatest hobby was playing the piano.

In accordance with Mr. Relf's wishes, his ashes were taken to the Naval Barracks at Portsmouth to be scattered at sea.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Audrey Joyce Relf, a son and three daughters.

**Walter James Roden.** *Loyal North Lancashire Regiment*

Walter James Roden of Chorley, Lancashire, died on 30th May, 1976 at the age of 87.

Mr. Roden served as a Private with the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment from November 1914 and lost his sight after a mustard gas attack in 1918. After becoming a St. Dunstaner in 1953, he was able to enjoy doing some hobby work at home but was obliged to take life rather quietly—although, within the last year or two, he had derived great pride in doing a little greenhouse work, encouraged and assisted by his family.

Mrs. Roden died in 1972, since when our St. Dunstaner had lived with his step-daughter, Mrs. Emma Pressler, and her family.

**George Taylor.** *Cheshire Regiment*

George Taylor of Handbridge, Chester, died on 16th April, 1976 aged 81.

He enlisted in December 1915 and served as a Private with the 10th Battalion Cheshire Regiment. He was wounded in 1917, and discharged from the army in January 1918. In spite of his loss of sight, Mr. Taylor was able to work as a postman until his retirement in 1962. About a year later, his remaining sight began to fail and he came to St. Dunstan's in October 1964.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Rhoda Taylor.



# St Dunstons Review August





## Message from the Chairman:

### Memorial to Lord Fraser of Lonsdale in Westminster Abbey

St. Dunstaners will like to know that the work on the Memorial Tablet is proceeding and that arrangements have been made for the Unveiling Ceremony to be held on Thursday, October 14th at 11.30 a.m. in the Cloisters of Westminster Abbey.

Unfortunately, the space available for the Service is very limited so that it will not be possible to invite all St. Dunstaners to attend. A number will therefore be selected by ballot, probably at the beginning of September.

Those whose names come up in the ballot will be informed and, if they wish to attend, tickets of admission will be sent them with details of the arrangements we are making as regards travel, accommodation, etc. If any of these are unable to accept the invitation, further names will be drawn by ballot.

I acknowledge, with very many thanks, the generous contributions received from St. Dunstaners and friends, both in the United Kingdom and in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa. This warm-hearted response is greatly appreciated.

Jon Earnest-Dance

CHAIRMAN

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**COVER PICTURE:** *Barbara Bell, taking part in the St. Dunstan's Sports Weekend, is seen on the springboard during the diving.*



## WAR WIDOWS PENSIONS

Some War Widows of St. Dunstaners will have received from H.M. Inspectors of Taxes, Notices of Assessments and Demands for Income Tax, probably the first they have received during their lives. In many instances, this will have caused alarm and distress. However, as a result of an Amendment to the Finance Bill passed in the House of Commons in the small hours of the 14th July, one half of the War Widows Pension will be exempt from Tax and it is almost certain that War Widows, who have no other substantial source of income, will not be called upon to pay any Income Tax.

It is worth noting that the Amendment was supported by MPs of all parties and reflects the pressure brought to bear by St. Dunstan's and other ex-Service Organisations over very many years.

### Temporary Allowance

Some problems may still arise in the first year following the death of a severely disabled War Pensioner where his Widow receives the Temporary Allowance. (In most cases the Allowance is equal to the pension and allowances formerly in payment to her Husband, for the first 26 weeks of widowhood.) That Temporary Allowance is liable to tax and, when added to the War Widows pension which may be granted later, could be sufficiently large, calculated over the year, to rank for actual payment of the tax. In subsequent years, the exemption referred to above will apply and no further tax should be payable. Our Pensions Officer at Headquarters, Mr. L. A. Slade, will advise in individual cases.

## Staff Retirements

### MISS B. WILLS

After nearly 18 years service, Miss Wills of the Accounts Department retired on the 31st May. She joined the staff in July 1958 and took over the senior post of Salaries and Wages Clerk in August 1970, a position of trust she filled most ably. We offer our best wishes to Miss Wills on her retirement.

## PHYLLIS ROGERS WRITES:

Through the columns of the *Review* I would like to express my sincere thanks to all St. Dunstaners and their families and to all Widows who have written to me to send their kind wishes for my future health and happiness now that I have retired from the Headquarters staff. The overwhelming number of letters and cards makes it difficult to write an individual reply as much as I would have liked to do so.

At the London Reunion I was presented with a splendid camera and a cheque and I thought members may like to know that I am getting a portable radio and some carpentry tools so that I shall be well set up for leisure, pleasure and a little hobby work and in all these activities I shall think of everyone who helped to make my departure from H.Q. just that much easier, as one always feels a tinge of sadness at giving up the associations of many years. Neither must I fail to thank those St. Dunstaners who showed me such goodwill at each S. Area Reunion this year — particularly at Bristol where I was given a most attractive floral arrangement. May I thank the anonymous donor for the beautiful cameo left for me at Headquarters?

Please accept my heartfelt thanks. I know that all St. Dunstaners will offer my successor Miss Penelope Lord the same warmth of friendship which it has been my good fortune to receive over many years. I look forward to meeting many of you at future reunions. Meantime my affection, greetings and thanks to you all.

*Editor's Note:* The London Reunion will be reported in the October *Review*.

### MR. H. WRIGHT

For the past 20 years Harry Wright has been cutting and despatching quotas of timber to our joiners. He reached his 65th birthday a year or two ago and we were pleased that he was able to continue working for a few more years. Harry retired at the end of June and we wish him good health and a happy retirement.





*Sybil Bell loses no time in trying out her prize "tickling stick" on David at the Newcastle Reunion.*

# REUNIONS

## NEWCASTLE

What the Newcastle Reunion lacks in numbers it makes up for with "Geordie" warmth. There were 48 people in all at the Royal Station Hotel on Thursday, 10th June and the "family" aspect of St. Dunstan's was very prominent, particularly in the welcome for retired welfare visitors: Mrs. King and Mrs. Plaxton.

Major M. E. M. Sandys, accompanied by Mrs. Sandys, was the member of the Council presiding over the luncheon. After first proposing the silent toast, he welcomed 4 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 14 from the Second World War or later, with a special word for Patrick Murphy, Alloway, and Albert Steer, Billingham, who were attending a reunion for the first time.

After mentioning the names of members of staff present, including Mrs. Ward, welfare visitor responsible and Miss Skinner, who assisted, Major Sandys went

on to pay a tribute to the work of the staff generally: "We can never express too strongly that success or failure lies almost entirely on the work and devotion to duty of the permanent staff. It is they who bear the heat and burden of the day and they who look after all our individual members. Our grateful thanks, I think, are due to them for all they do week-in and week-out to make this organisation the success it is".

### Current Problems

Major Sandys referred to the numbers of St. Dunstaners living in the country and abroad before turning to the wider implications of the pressure that current problems bring to bear on the work of St. Dunstan's.

He reminded his listeners that the complete series of Sir Winston Churchill's works have just been published in 34 volumes and said that, in this connection, he had been reading a number of articles





*Colonel Sir Mike Ansell is amused by Percy Acton's speech at Sheffield.*

on Sir Winston, his life and times—particularly his war leadership.

"The effect it left on me was one of a picture of a different country, single minded, united, comparatively uncomplicated and set in the direction of self-sacrifice which only first-class leadership can produce in times of peril".

Major Sandys contrasted this with the present situation: faced with internal economic collapse which he blamed on our own actions—"Other countries all have their difficulties and they seem to be able to overcome them with the appearance of unity. This so far seems to have escaped us. We've thrown overboard so many of the principles which have served us so well in the past.

"This is not the world which so many of us remember. Now we are getting this showing up not only in your lives and mine but more directly and insistently in our pockets, and even in the pocket of such a well-run organisation as St. Dunstan's. Inflation is bound to affect us but everything will be done to keep up the level of help and the quality of service which our members have every right to expect".

For the future, Major Sandys remains optimistic: "We are now at the moment celebrating the removal of our first empire in 1776, when the Americans walked out. We've since then made another empire and we've lost that one. Everyone thought the roof was falling in when that happened and we think the roof is falling in now. I am quite certain that we shall overcome these difficulties just as we've overcome all the difficulties in the past".

Major Sandys concluded by expressing the hope that all St. Dunstaners and their families would share in any improvement the country could afford and wishing everyone, "an enjoyable afternoon here in good fellowship".

After Mr. Wills had addressed St. Dunstaners, David Hodgson, Greatham, spoke in reply. "I want first of all to extend a welcome to our chairman and his lovely lady. We are indeed proud to have him with us and I hope we will see him again in the near future".

He thanked Major Sandys and Mr. Wills for their speeches and then referred to the staff: "I would like to thank the organisation's staff working so hard all



the year round. I don't think we can ever say thank you enough to the ladies and gentlemen on the staff. Also I would like to thank the kind ladies who organised this afternoon in such an efficient manner. We have clearly enjoyed the lunch, it was well served and it was hot".

After luncheon, there was dancing to the Don Fraser Sound and the usual prize draw at tea-time. Among the prizes were a number of Ken Dodd style "tickling sticks"—once known as feather dusters—which caused a good deal of amusement. So another Newcastle Reunion ended in great good humour.

## **SHEFFIELD**

From the Victorian stateliness of the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle, to the modern glass and steel of the Hallam Tower at Sheffield, on Saturday, 12th June, is a real contrast in backgrounds. Further, the Sheffield Reunion was a gathering of 90 people, almost twice as many. One thing was the same, the air of warmth and cordiality, this time with a strong Yorkshire flavour.

Forty St. Dunstaners were there, with their wives or escorts, 8 from the First World War and 32 from the Second World War or later. Their chairman for the day was Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's. Sir Mike, who had served in Yorkshire before the War, was in fine form and met many old friends among St. Dunstaners.

### **Greeting from Lady Fraser**

Opening his speech after the silent toast, Sir Mike brought a message of greetings from Lady Fraser. He continued, "To me it's particularly interesting to come up here today because 12th June, 1940, was the day I got shot up at a place called St. Valery and then there were some of us went to jug and we came home after certain hesitant moves of the Germans after, possibly, 3½ years".

Sir Mike said that two things helped his rehabilitation on his return to England: "St. Dunstan's and the horse." He described how he became a successful flower farmer, winning medals at the Chelsea Show, and how he was drawn back into the competitive world of horse riding—as a producer.

"There is one thing we do learn in the Army, how to produce. Whether it be mounting the guard, Trooping the Colour; whether it be Beating the Retreat or marching in some wretched soldier: 'Cap off, left turn, right turn, speak up; Yes, sir; Are you guilty?; Yes, sir; Three days C.B.; right turn, left turn, out'. The whole thing is a production. It helped me endlessly in the horse world".

### **'Guests from Overseas'**

"I was madly keen to defeat the foreigner every time that we could get him. I was told later to call him, 'our guest from overseas', but that never really worried me. In the horse world it is one thing that we've won. There are only three equestrian events in the Olympics, and at every Games since 1948 we've won medals".

Saying that it was a very great pleasure to be in Yorkshire because he spent many years of his Army life at Fulford Barracks in York, Sir Mike commented on the St. Dunstaners on the Reunion list: "When you look at that list—Inniskilling Fusiliers, I was Inniskilling Dragoons, we served together. The Royal Ulster Rifles, I served with them. The Royal Scots were with us when I was in France. On that list there's a representative of every regiment that I've had the good fortune to serve with, and I notice there are even three cavalymen here and I make the fourth".

### **Fulford Barracks**

Referring to Fulford Barracks, Sir Mike said it was dreary but a wonderful place for the cavalry officer to learn to lead. "I had a hundred days' hunting from Fulford Barracks, when I was equitation officer, without a single day's leave. You'll all laugh at that but we did learn our job through hunting. We learnt an eye for the country, to read a map and to take our own line and to make up our own mind when to take a risk. We didn't have to go to a committee or civil servants or councillors to decide whether we were going to jump a certain fence. We just went ahead and did it.

"The present trend of this country is nobody will ever lead. Nobody will ever make a decision. You must refer it to another County Council. Then you must



get the councillors to send in their expenses. Then you must do the rest before anybody makes a decision".

Repeating his pleasure at being back in Yorkshire, Sir Mike wound up by expressing thanks to Mr. Wills, and the staff of St. Dunstan's, "And all those who help in making these arrangements and the work they do for us St. Dunstaners. We regard ourselves as a very fine regiment, well-staffed by the civilians who follow behind. I think in the days of Waterloo some of the ladies weren't altogether—they were camp-followers—but Mr. Wills' are not!"

Mr. Wills then addressed the gathering and introduced Percy Acton, Halifax, to propose the vote of thanks. He first of all thanked Sir Mike for his speech, "I must say this that as I have heard Sir

Michael speaking, I must admit he would make an ideal Yorkshireman. To Sir Michael I would like to express a vote of thanks, but don't let us forget all the other people".

Mr. Acton then mentioned all the members of staff at the Reunion by name, particularly thanking Miss Broughton, Welfare Visitor responsible, and Miss Newbold, who assisted her. He continued, "From the bottom of my heart I do wish these people all that they wish themselves and I am sure that you wish them also".

Dancing and much talk and banter filled the afternoon until tea-time and the prize draw brought the gathering to a close. Yorkshire had done it again, producing a very happy and successful Reunion.

## BRISTOL

An exceptionally hot sunny day in the prevailing spell of exceptional weather for the Reunion held on Saturday, 26th June just outside Bristol, but the Esso Motor Hotel, with its spacious rooms, was the ideal place for this gathering.

All together, 126 people sat down to lunch, including 9 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 44 from the Second World War or later. The arrangements were made by Miss Meyer assisted by Miss Newbold, and the guests of honour were Mrs. Spurway, Miss Oliphant, and Miss J. Meyer, our Welfare Visitor's sister. The Rev. F. Darrell Bunt was the member of St. Dunstan's Council presiding, and he was accompanied by his wife and young daughter.

After proposing the silent toast to Sir Arthur Pearson, Lord Fraser and St. Dunstaners who had died, Mr. Bunt said that it was a great pleasure to be there and he brought greetings from all members of the Council with a special message of love and affection from Lady Fraser.

"I have been to many Reunions, but I have never actually been to Bristol", said Mr. Bunt, and he went on to name the guests and members of St. Dunstan's staff present and to give the numbers of St. Dunstaners at the Reunion and alive

today at home and overseas. Turning to personal matters, Mr. Bunt informed his audience that he had served as a member of St. Dunstan's Council for twenty-five years and proposed to retire after the next Annual General Meeting, thus making way for someone younger and more active. He added that he would do so with very many regrets and said about the Reunions: "They've all had one thing in common, every one, and that is what I describe as the happy, confident and optimistic atmosphere of those who have learned to cope with adversity and handicaps, and found not only the satisfaction of overcoming but the sharing of the victory with others. That is the spirit which I have found in St. Dunstaners over these years—and it's a happy atmosphere because, if I may say so, it is a family atmosphere".

Mr. Bunt then analysed the various components which made up the services provided by St. Dunstan's and he went on to speak of the wives: "I would like to pay a very special tribute to St. Dunstaners' wives who, if I may say so, have done—and do—a magnificent job. After all, this can sometimes be extraordinarily difficult—and when I think of that I am reminded of a certain well-meaning lady who saw a little girl, an almost emaciated thin little girl, staggering



under the weight of a little boy who was nearly as big as herself, and the well-meaning lady stopped her and said 'You know, you're carrying a very heavy burden, aren't you?' And the little chin went up and the eyes flashed and she said 'He's not a burden, he's my brother'—and I think sometimes it is a very good thing to remember the spirit of that little lady. 'He's not a burden, he's my brother'—he's my husband, she's my wife''.

Speaking of the future of St. Dunstan's, Mr. Bunt said that despite the loss of so many fine characters in recent years, he believed that this family feeling was so firmly implanted that it would go on.

"So many people see visions", he said, "but you don't need eyes to see visions, but you do need the spirit to make visions come true—and that is the spirit which in the past twenty-five years I have seen at St. Dunstan's, the spirits of Sir Arthur Pearson, Ian Fraser and many

others whom you and I will always remember with affection and gratitude for their service''.

Mr. Bunt concluded as follows: "I want to wish you all a very happy day, all the best in the years ahead, and to assure you that I shall always remember with gratitude my 25 years' association with St. Dunstan's and the many happy Reunions I have attended—and may I as a parson finish by saying God bless you''.

Mr. C. D. Wills, St. Dunstan's Secretary, then introduced Len Curnow, Liskeard, who proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. After thanking Mr. Darrell Bunt for his speech, Len Curnow went on: "Looking back over 29 years, which I have spent with St. Dunstan's—and many of you have spent over fifty—we reminisce and we look back. We hear men of the 1914-18 War speak of Sir Arthur Pearson, our Founder, with great respect, also of the Matron who was referred to many times as the

*At the Bristol Reunion, The Rev. Darrell Bunt is seen with (left to right) Mr. Wills, Miss Newbold, Tom Daborn, Miss Rogers, Rev. Darrell Bunt, Len Curnow, Miss Meyer.*





Angel of St. Dunstan's, Miss Boyd-Rochfort. We also of the '39 War look back, and we think of our great leader, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, and we look back to our homes where we were born and which gave us the light to go forward into the outside world, to Ovingdean, the late Matron Pain, also the Commandant there, Commandant Dacre, Mrs. Dacre who, I am pleased to say, is still carrying on great work in the Royal British Legion, and still trying to do her very best for everyone concerned.

"The Rev. Bunt referred to Lady Fraser, sending her our love. I am sure all of us here would like to return that love, with great sincerity".

Len Curnow then thanked the management and staff of the hotel for their services and an excellent meal, and he also thanked Miss Meyer and Miss Newbold.

#### **Dr. O'Hara**

Referring to the two Brighton Homes, Len paid a special tribute to Dr. John O'Hara, physician, philosopher and friend. He concluded by thanking Mr. Garnett-Orme, Lady Fraser and other members of the Council and all members of St. Dunstan's staff.

Tom Daborn, Paracombe, spoke next saying that the pleasurable part of the Reunion was tinged with regret because of the coming retirement of Miss Rogers: "You all know the great work that Miss Rogers has done on behalf of Headquarters: a sympathetic ear, inexhaustible patience with our trials and tribulations, be they big or small, a counsellor and friend".

#### **Phyllis Will Fix It**

Drawing a parallel with the Jimmy Savile BBC programme, Jim'll Fix It, Tom Daborn added that it could be said of Miss Rogers at St. Dunstan's "Phyllis Will Fix It". "Miss Rogers, it gives me great pleasure on behalf of your whole family at St. Dunstan's to wish you well—and it is our sincere wish that you enjoy a long and happy retirement and take with you that peace of mind and tranquillity you have so ably instilled into others".

He then called on Mrs. Mary Davies, wife of Vic Davies, Braunton, who presented a bouquet to Miss Rogers.

"Well, I'm almost speechless and that'll be a change, won't it?" said Miss Rogers. "Over the years, I must have written thousands of letters to you all and it is very difficult for me to say good-bye. I only propose to say au revoir, and I hope to see many of you again, but before I sit down, I would like to say that whatever I have done at Headquarters to help over the years—and I must admit I've always tried, sometimes I have felt I haven't quite succeeded, but there it is—but nothing I have done could have been done without the very able assistance of my welfare visitors. The welfare visitors come to your homes and it is through them that I hear all about your good news, your bad news and your sad news—and I would like to say that without their help I would certainly not be the happy recipient of your kindness today. And I know that when I leave you I will hand you over to Miss Penny Lord who will, I know, follow the traditions of St. Dunstan's in trying to help you in difficulties.

"We live in a world where we have gradually become numbers and the one thing I hope I shall carry away into my years of retirement is the great feeling that in St. Dunstan's you are definitely not numbers, you are all individual men and women, and on the staff we have many opportunities of appreciating your courage. And I think the suffering, the braveness and the courage of St. Dunstaners is an example not only to the staff, who have the pleasure of serving you, but also to the world outside.

"I would like to thank you again for nineteen years of very happy association among you all".

After lunch, a group played for dancing and there was a great deal of conversation among friends. Mrs. Bunt presented the prizes at the customary raffle and the company dispersed after tea. It was an excellent Reunion.

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We congratulate Barbara Cookson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cookson of Guildford, who has qualified as a State Registered Nurse.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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**From: Fred Harris, Colchester, Essex**

I was interested in the article on ghosts and apparitions in the July *Review*, for I have my own personal experiences of these matters.

In the house where I lived as a small boy, a man had died of poison. One evening my mother asked me to go up to my bedroom to get something. "There is no-one in upstairs", she said. "They are all out, so you can leave your door open and the hall lamp will give you enough light". As I came out of my room, I heard heavy slow steps coming down the stairs in front of me. The steps came nearer and I flattened myself against my bedroom door to let this invisible man pass me, and as he did so I could hear his heavy breathing. He went down the stairs to the hall and went out of the front door, but the door did not open. I was terrified, and rushed down to my mother, but she tried to pacify me by saying I had only heard the people next door on their stairs—but I said no, for I had heard his steps and his breathing.

Some years later, a young married couple had taken those rooms where that man had died, and my mother was in the hall when the young woman called out to my mother, "A man came out of my back room and he passed you on his way out", but my mother said she did not see anyone. When the young woman described the man, my mother knew at once who she had seen.

Years passed on and I was now a St. Dunstan's poultry farmer. Another St. Dunstan's poultry farmer had died very suddenly and his widow could not get back to London fast enough. As I was looking for a place to open up a poultry farm, St. Dunstan's let me take over. One afternoon, I was having a nap in the armchair in the kitchen and my sister, who was spending a few days with my wife and I, was resting in the bedroom which also opened into the passage, and she said "Whatever were you doing in the passage this afternoon? It sounded as though you had got all Lockharts

elephants stomping up and down the passage".

When my daughter was old enough, we put her into the front bedroom to sleep. In the middle of the night, she came into our room screaming and crying with terror. We let her sleep with us for the rest of the night, but when this happened once or twice again, I decided that my daughter must sleep with her mother and I would sleep in that room for a while. I woke up suddenly and there was a most uncanny eerie and creepy feeling about the room, and then suddenly the door which was fastened, burst open. After a short while I got up and closed the door, but again it burst open.

Some years later, my daughter and I were expecting my wife home on the 6 o'clock bus and sitting on the step of a shed alongside the path from the front gate. I said "Your mother will be here any minute now", when there was a click at the gate and a young woman came quickly down the path. I jumped up to greet her, thinking it was my wife, but she walked past me and went on. Realising it could not be my wife, I followed. She suddenly vanished into thin air and I realised she was just an apparition.

One evening at 6 o'clock, my wife said to me "Open the door, there is a lady come". The window was by the side of the door, I opened it but no-one was there. Several times my wife when looking towards that window at 6 o'clock would see someone wearing a white cap like a hospital nurse or sister pass by the window and, if we opened the door, there was never anyone there. I lived in that spooky bungalow for 35 years until I retired from poultry keeping. I would have liked to have moved from the place, but the opportunity did not present itself.

Lots of people say ghosts and apparitions are all imagination, but when one has had personal experience of these things, one is left completely puzzled as to how it happens.

Hoping you will find my letter of interest.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Robert Atkins** of West Mersea, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He served in the Army during the First World War, and is a widower with a grown up family.

**Major George Ewbank Swifte Briggs-Swifte** of County Kilkenny, Eire, who joined St. Dunstan's in May. He served for various periods in the British Army and also in the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, being finally discharged in 1948, and is married.

**Carl Burt** of Newcastle, Staffordshire, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He served with the Royal Artillery from 1946 to 1948, and is a single man.

**John Philip Heyes** of London S.W.6, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He served as a Private in the 2/15 London Regiment during the First World War and was wounded at Salonika. Since his

discharge from the Army, Mr. Heyes was employed in a clerical capacity, but he has been retired for some years. He is married and has a grown-up son.

**Alfred William Lockhart** of Dagenham, Essex, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He served in the R.A.S.C. during the Second World War and was a Prisoner of War in Singapore. He was discharged in 1946 and has worked in industry until indifferent health made it necessary for him to give up his occupation. Mr. Lockhart is married and has a son and a daughter.

**Arthur Ernest Lowe** of Fareham, Hampshire, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He served in the 8th Royal Warwickshire Territorials and later joined the RAF. Having served in the Middle East and Far East, he left the Services in 1966 with the rank of Sergeant. He is married and has a grown-up family.

**Frank Ernest Templeman** of Clwyd, who joined St. Dunstan's in July. He served with the Royal Signals from 1945 to 1948 and is married.

**Michael Woodcock** of Moordown, Bournemouth, who joined St. Dunstan's in June. He joined the RAF in 1953 and was invalided out in 1956. His recent occupation has been that of a Company Director in the Building Industry, and he is unmarried.

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### MATRON RETIRES

Mrs. Jean Blackford, our Matron at Ian Fraser House since March 1963, has decided to retire at the end of September. Although she reached retirement age before the reconstruction of Ian Fraser House was completed, she agreed to continue in order to see the Home restored to normal activities. This has now been achieved with her valuable help.

The new Matron of Ian Fraser House will be Mrs. Mona Dunk, who will join the staff on 6th September, and will assume the duties of Matron on the 4th October. We wish her every success.

An appreciation of Mrs. Blackford's work in St. Dunstan's will appear in the October Review.

### NO SEPTEMBER REVIEW

As in previous years, we shall NOT be printing a September issue of the Review. St. Dunstaners should receive their copies of the October issue early in the month.

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## BRIDGE NOTES

The second Bridge Drive of the year was held in the club rooms on Saturday, 26th June and the results were as follows:

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1st | <b>Roy Armstrong</b><br><b>J. Armstrong</b> |
| 2nd | J. Lynch<br>Mrs. Lynch                      |
| 3rd | B. Allen<br>P. Woods                        |





*The members of St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society at Ian Fraser House.*

## St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society

by Norman Maries

Meetings of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society were held at Ovingdean, during the weekend of 2nd to 4th July. There is no doubt that the thirteen St. Dunstaners attending the various functions throughout the weekend, found them both interesting and informative.

Most members of the Society arrived at Ian Fraser House during the afternoon of Friday. After the evening meal an informal gathering took place in the Winter Gardens. Charles Bargery sent a message of "Bon Voyage", to his wife, in a friend's car in the car-park, at the front of the building—not what one may call a long distance contact, but it did prove that the equipment was in working order and Charles in good voice. Bill Shea arrived a little later, with his wife, having brought his transmitting equipment for all to share. Thanks Charles, and Bill, for your efforts, and unselfish co-operation. Bill's equipment was soon set up, and declared ready to amaze all listeners, on the Amateur Bands, throughout the world.

Part of Saturday morning took the form of a General Meeting, and amongst the items discussed was the affiliation of this society to the Royal Navy Amateur Radio Society, The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, and the Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society. The routine business out of the way, we were able to greet Ralph Cathles G3NDF, who helps several blind amateurs, throughout the country, by sending them readings from various technical magazines, on cassette tape. On this occasion he was to record the afternoon lecture for members who were unable to attend, and any other blind amateur radio enthusiast. We were also pleased to welcome Con Scarrott, the local representative of the Radio Amateur Invalid and Bedfast Club. He was able to advise on the activities, and membership, of the R.A.I.B.C. Another welcome visitor, on Saturday, was Mr. David Castleton, of St. Dunstan's Public Relations Department, who is to design a new card to confirm the radio contacts of



future meetings at Ian Fraser House. We were sorry that neither our President, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, nor Mr. French, could join us, but we look forward to their presence at some future meeting.

On Saturday after lunch, we were individually introduced to the guest speaker, Mr. Louis Varney, C.Eng.: M.I.E.E., who has held an amateur Sound Transmitting Licence since 1927 with the call sign G5RV, has transmitted from some 50 countries, and in his professional capacity has been connected with many interesting developments in electronics and radio. The talk was about his design of an aerial system, which has received world-wide acclaim, and is known as the G5RV antenna. We thanked him for making the afternoon most interesting, irrespective of our technical abilities, and answering our questions in such detail. Mr. Varney stayed for a cup of tea, and for an appreciable time afterwards, talking to individuals.

### **World-Wide Contacts**

Saturday evening saw many contacts, with amateurs around the world, using the high-powered transmitter. Licensees (radio?) as far as the Isle of Wight were reached, using the low-powered transmitter, connected to an aerial only 19 inches long, positioned on the window-ledge outside.

Sunday morning transmissions started before breakfast, and contacts with South America, South Africa, and a number of European countries were made, in spite of the early morning thunderstorm, which produced high levels of interference. Later contacts included a group from the Royal Navy Amateur Radio Society, and two stations specially set up for the bi-centenary of American independence. The last contact of the weekend was with G3VQ, Ken Thompson of Belfast, whose wife is none other than Ruth Thompson, St. Dunstan's Welfare Visitor in Northern Ireland.

We are looking forward to receiving cards sent to confirm contacts, and are indebted to Mrs. Audrey, and Miss Mary Gaygan, for taking the responsibility of the log of contacts for the weekend, and despatching the necessary cards on our behalf. Cards from the previous weekend had been mounted on boards, for all to see.

Our thanks to the Commandant, Matron, and staff, at Ian Fraser House, for their hospitality. Thanks also to Headquarters staff, for their help in making reservations, travel arrangements, and escorting those who had to travel via London.

Copies of the cassette recording, from the lecture, may be obtained from the Secretary, St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society: Mr. E. John, G3SEJ, 52 Broadway Avenue, Wallasey, Merseyside, L45 6TD. A blank C60 cassette should be enclosed.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society will be at Ian Fraser House, 24th-26th September 1976. We look forward to meeting, once again, and perhaps welcoming other St. Dunstaners who have shown an interest in amateur radio recently, together with absent friends from this occasion. Applications for accommodation should be made to Miss Bridger, at Headquarters, and not to the Secretary of the Radio Society. All St. Dunstaners, whatever their interest in radio or electronics, will be most welcome.

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### **FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE**

It is hoped that we will again be granted an allocation of tickets for the Afternoon and Evening Presentation of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, 13th November. Any St. Dunstaner who has not previously had the opportunity of attending is invited to apply to Miss Bridger at Headquarters not later than Monday, 27th September, for inclusion in the ballot for tickets, indicating which Presentation he would prefer to attend.

Those St. Dunstaners allocated tickets who do not live within daily travelling distance of London will be assisted with fares and accommodation for one or two nights at St. Dunstan's expense and will be invited to join the St. Dunstan's contingent attending the Cenotaph Parade in Whitehall on Sunday, 14th November.





*Ted Jinks in the standing long-jump.*

*"Putting" the medicine ball is Jerry Lynch.*



## IN THE ANNEXE IF WET

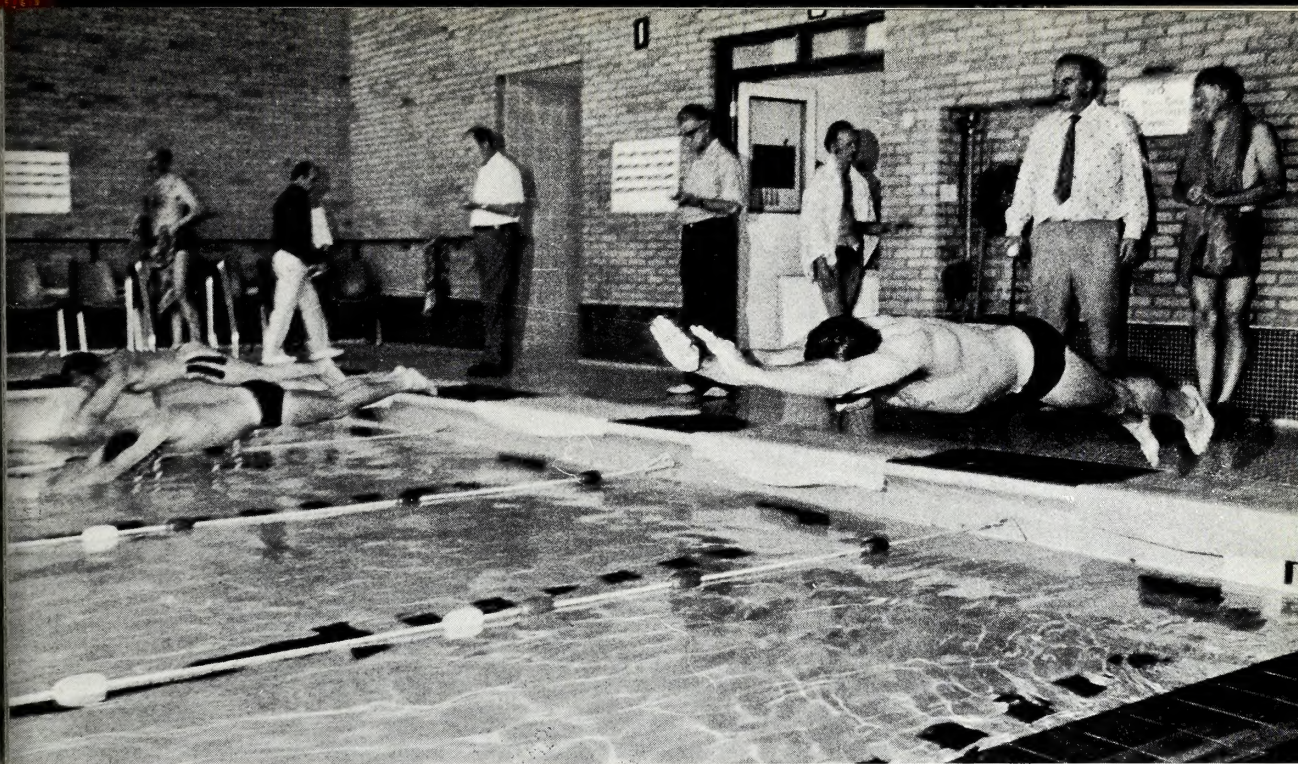
### St. DUNSTAN'S SPORTS 1976

In the middle of a summer drought that had brought dire warnings from Water Authorities in many parts of the country, we held St. Dunstan's Annual Sports Weekend. The walking was completed under lowering skies at Hove Park and by the time the coach returned to Ian Fraser House the rain was falling in earnest.

Jock Carnochan's carefully marked-out athletics field became sodden and slippery so that, even if the rain had stopped, competition would have been hazardous. The rain continued, and our Sports Officer made the decision that the sports should be brought indoors.

With masterly naval improvisation, full use was made of the ample covered space provided by the bowling rink—carpet rolled back—gymnasium, and the Annexe itself. The shot became a one-handed throw of a medicine ball, darts took the place of the javelin. There was a short sprint along the length of the bowling rink with sighted escort—mainly Mandy Carnochan, whose energy seemed inexhaustible—static cycle, rowing machine, skittles, long jump and an instrument of torture known as the abdominal board.





*The start of one of the swimming heats.*

It all added up to an afternoon of fun and interest for competitors and spectators alike despite the weather—and it was good to see our keener athletes swallowing their disappointment and entering into the spirit of things.

The team event was won by Young's Yetis with 40 points from Bell's Baboons with 30 points. Individually it was John Simpson (Totally Blind), Don Planner (Partially Sighted) and Bill Griffiths (Doubly Handicapped) who won the Victors Ludorum prizes.

It was good to see a new arrival at Ian Fraser House, Don Planner, among the awards—he naturally also carried off the best beginner prize, but the real star of the week-end was Barbara Bell, our only woman competitor, who took part in everything and acquitted herself very well indeed—many of her results comparing favourably with the male competitors. In the 2½ mile walk held at a new venue, Hove Park, which proved popular with our walkers, John Simpson led the way home for the Totally Blind, with a handicap time of 22 mins. 27 secs. He was the fastest walker on actual time 23 mins. 27 secs., 1 min. 48 secs. faster

than Paddy Cryan's actual time of 25 mins. 15 secs. Paddy won the P.S. section with a handicap time of 21 mins. 15 secs.

### **Swimming**

There was nothing the weather could do on Sunday to dampen the swimming events in which Ray Peart showed that he is in fine form for the Disabled Olympics in Canada. His time of 24.8 secs. for the 2 lengths free style was 4.1 secs. better than the next man, Mike Tetley. While in the endurance event—10 lengths free style—he had a 53.1 sec. advantage over Mike. So it was Ray Peart, winner of the T.B. section, Alan Wortley, P.S., and Bill Griffiths, D.H.

On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Wills made the presentations to conclude an excellent sports week-end achieved despite the weather, and his suggestion that, as things had gone so well in our new quarters under cover, it might be possible to run a sports week-end during the winter months, was greeted with enthusiasm.

*Detailed results overleaf.*





Mr. Wills poses with "Young's Yetis" after presenting them with their tankards as team winners. The Yetis are (left to right) Ted Bunting, Mike Tetley, Jimmy Wright, Bob Young and Reg Palmer.

## SWIMMING RESULTS

Name	2 L Breast Stroke	2 L Front Crawl	2 L Back Stroke	2 L Free Style	Plunge	Com- pulsory Dive max. 40	Volun- tary Dive pos. pts.	10 L Free Style 30 mins, secs	Total Points	Final Place
<b>T.B.</b>										
M. Tetley	41.5	28.3	46.4	28.9	56' 0"	17	20	20	4.1.3	53 2nd
J. Simpson	51.4	62.3	88.5	60.2	36' 0"	6	19	21	6.25.5	27 6th
C. Stafford	46.5	45.6		50.4	26' 8"	3	13	19	5.4.7	15 8th
P. Spencer	39.1		52.2	40.2	39' 10"		19	18		30 4th
J. Humphrey	45.0			44.2	38' 4"	8	18	21	5.0.7	34 3rd
N. Perry	42.0		57.6		27' 4"		15	13	5.0.8	15 8th
J. Wright				60.6	40' 8"		21	20		24 7th
T. Parkinson	44.5	39.1			29' 10"		22	24		28 5th
R. Peart	31.0	25.4		24.8	33' 0"	5	21	26	3.8.2	56 1st
<b>P.S.</b>										
R. Palmer	56.4	49.9		48.3	17' 0"	3	14			11 6th
A. Wortley	38.3		47.3	38.4	42' 9"	9	22	18	4.5.8	37 1st
E. Bunting	44.8				40' 1"	17	21	15		24 2nd
J. Cope	42.6	37.2		36.0	31' 10"	15			5.36.0	24 2nd
E. Allchin	54.5	59.1		58.2	21' 9"	2	11	4	6.12.6	11 6th
R. Hall	56.6		44.8		38' 0"	8	18	18		16 4th
<b>D.H.</b>										
P. Stubbs	65.5		73.4		36' 0"		17	19		5 2nd
W. Griffiths	55.4		64.6	59.9	45' 10"		21	20		15 1st
<b>Women</b>										
B. Bell (Miss)		50.5			43' 4"		16	20		8 1st



## 2½ MILE WALK

Order of Finish	Handicap Time	Allowance	Actual Time
P. Cryan	21.15	4.00	25.15
J. Simpson	22.27	1.00	23.27
N. Perry	22.32	2.40	25.12
M. Tetley	22.49	2.00	24.49
R. Hall	23.14	3.00	26.14
D. Planner	23.30	2.00	25.30
E. Allchin	23.33	1.50	25.23
J. Lynch	23.35	2.50	26.25
R. Palmer	23.36	2.30	26.06
A. Wortley	23.46	2.30	26.16
C. Stafford	23.56	3.00	26.56
S. Tutton	23.56	2.30	26.26
J. Wright	24.14	4.00	28.14
R. Young	24.50	2.50	27.40
W. Griffiths	25.04	4.30	29.34
H. Cope	25.20	2.10	27.30
E. Jinks	25.47	2.30	28.17
L. Rea	27.58	4.30	32.28
Barbara Bell	28.32	4.30	33.02
J. O'Donnell	29.25	2.10	31.35

## Prize Card

### VICTORS LUDORUM FIELD SPORTS SECTION

T.B.	J. Simpson	91 points
P.S.	D. Planner	102 points
D.H.	W. Griffiths	34 points

### VETERAN (over 60)

C. Stafford	57 points	5 competitors
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### BEST BEGINNER

D. Planner	102 points	9 competitors
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### FIELD SPORTS TEAMS

First	Young's Yetis	40 points
Second	Bell's Baboons	30 points
Third	Stubbs' Stallions	29 points
Fourth	Griffiths' Gorillas	27 points
Fifth	Pellington's Panthers	19 points

## 2½ MILE WALK

T.B.	J. Simpson	Time: 22.27
P.S.	P. Cryan	Time: 21.15

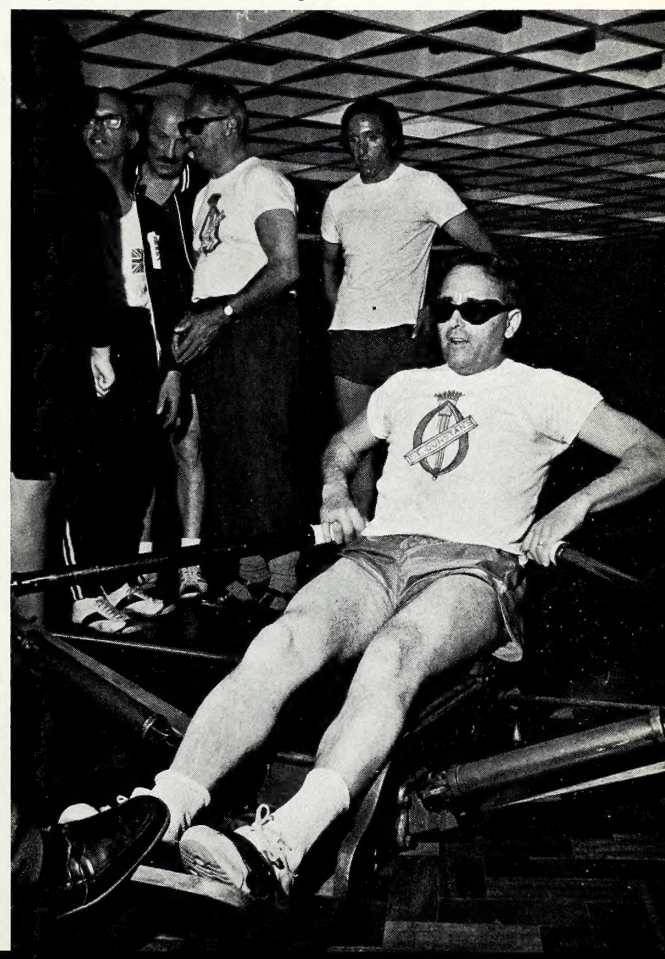
### SWIMMING EVENTS

T.B.	R. Peart	56 points
P.S.	A. Wortley	37 points
D.H.	W. Griffiths	15 points



A determined Barbara Bell competing in the sprint, guided by Mandy Carnochan.

Tony Parkinson on the rowing machine.







*At "base" (left to right) Cliff Evans, John Simpson, Tom Lukes, Bill Shea, Ray Sheriff, Edward Quinn and Jock Carnochan.*

## Another Welcome in the Hillside

by Ray Sheriff

For the third successive year a select team from the Elusive Order of St. Dunstan's gathered together for the express purpose of conquering the summit of Cader Idris, a mountain in the Snowdonia range of North Wales. Height: 2,927 feet. The date for this venture: 11th to 14th June. Rendezvous: the Red Lion Hotel in the picturesque village of Dinas Mawddwy.

The participants and their wives arrived at the station with the strange sounding name—Machynlleth—late Friday afternoon, 11th June, and were met and welcomed by the organiser of this exercise, Mr. Bob Thomas. This fine ex-Royal Navy character instigated the idea that the blind should have the

opportunity, under expert supervision, to try their luck at mountaineering. The team this year was six strong: Bill Shea, John Simpson, Tom Luke, Edward Quinn, Ernest Patterson and myself. Of course, we were all kept in strict order by Jock Carnochan, the very model of tact and discretion.

We spent Friday evening in the Hotel bar getting acquainted with the rest of the party over a glass of beer. Of course the women did the talking, we just drank.

Unfortunately, Ernie Patterson had to return home for personal reasons on the following morning. Fortunately, he left for our use lolly to the sum of £10, subscribed for "Comfort for the Troops" by an American citizen, Mrs. R. Herzfold,



a friend of Ernie's. I guess it could be termed "American Aid"?

On Saturday, 12th June, the day scheduled for the climb, we awoke early, probably due to the heavy patter of rain on our bedroom window. It was quite obvious that our big boots would not touch Cader Idris that dull, misty day. After breakfast our leader, Bob Thomas, arrived to confirm this fact: climb cancelled, adverse weather conditions, low cloud, 500 feet.

Naturally, our first reaction was disappointment, but we soon realised that we could not expect the leaders—Steve Farrow, Climb Master, John Bond, Deputy Leader, and voluntary escorts drawn from the Forestry Commission, Snowdonia National Park and the North Wales Police—to go ahead with the original plan. However, the organisers put their heads together and so deemed that we should not be deprived of a day's climbing, even though it proved of a lesser altitude.

So we donned our gear, grabbed our haversack rations and boarded the mini-

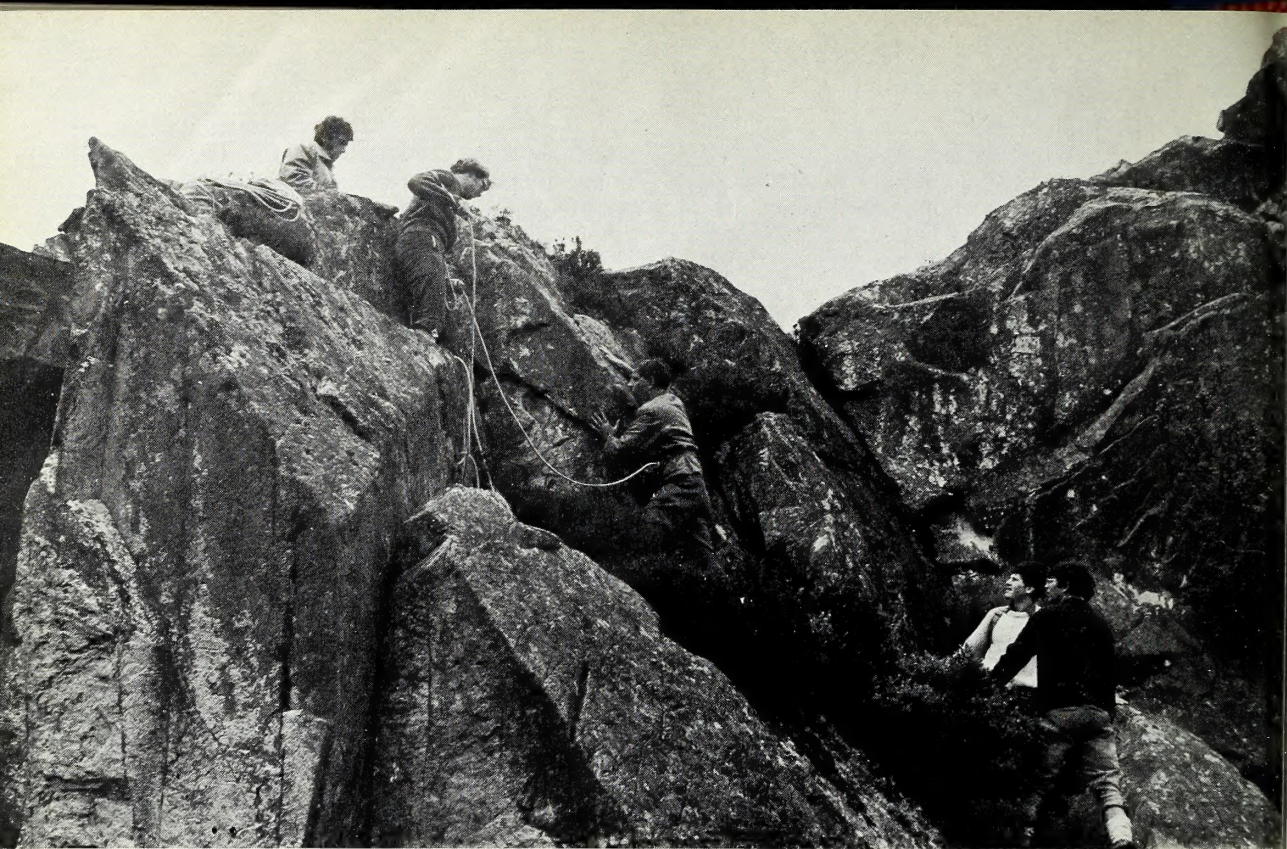
bus. In convoy with three landrovers we travelled about 10 miles to the lower slopes of Diffwys. Here we crossed the toll bridge and made for a halt three miles due North. Here we left the armour under camouflage and made for the track, which led ultimately to the open country and higher slopes. We very much enjoyed a scramble, with the aid of a rope, to a high point, an 80-foot outcrop of rock. At this point lunch was served. Weather conditions had not improved, still wet and misty. At this juncture, also, we were given an edifying talk by John Bond, an expert on the geology and landscape of the area—one thing I remember is that the greyish white metallic element of manganese was not too long ago mined in that area.

On the downward trek we enjoyed a climb of around 25 feet up an almost sheer rock face, and back to ground level. Of course, this was made simple and safe by having a rope tied round the waist. So ended an enjoyable day's climbing. Thanks to my able escorts—Eric Williams, John Davenport and Gwyn Jones—I was

*Edward Quinn has the assistance of a rope on this scramble.*







*Safely roped, Ray Sheriff picks his way up an outcrop of rock.*

never allowed to put a foot wrong. In fact, they jumped smartly into action thinking I needed help, when I wished just to sit down. Guess I must look pretty decrepit! Incidentally, Eric Williams was an ex-RAF Bomber Pilot during the War, and we were able to converse on the subject of the old Whitley bomber, more commonly known as the "Black Coffin". I did my qualifying parachute jumps from this monstrosity.

On the journey back to the hotel, we suddenly halted at an Inn called George III. Nothing too strange about this fact, except perhaps that the time was already 3.45 p.m. However, the door was open and soon we had liquid refreshments to replenish lost energy. I understand this bonus was earned by Cliff Evans, ex-Police Constable. Marvellous the doors an ex-Cop. can open! We duly thanked the Landlord for allowing his arm to be twisted.

After dinner, we moved to the Bar, where we were entertained by a vast vocal rendering of Welsh songs, sung in the manner only the Welsh can sing. Of course, we all joined in the songs we

knew, for instance "We'll Keep a Welcome in the Hillsides". We all stood and joined the singing of the Welsh Anthem "Land of My Fathers".

On Sunday, 13th June, we were taken to the Maesgwyn Forest Centre, where Reg Wheeler, Head Forester (Recreation), and Eric Jones, Forest Ranger, awaited us. Both these characters were a fountain of knowledge concerning the trees and animals of the forest. We were told about the different types of conifers, how to identify them by smell, touch and number of needles etc.; thermal transfer of genes from one tree to another—all jolly clever stuff, and too much for my wooden block!

We also visited a thinning working site, where methods of felling, extraction by overhead cables and winches, and finally conversion into different specifications for despatching, were explained by Reg Wheeler, who excelled himself with his telling of this long and intricate process.

The programme for Sunday also included a visit to a disused gold mine: up until 40 years ago, gold was being mined in North Wales. We were taken into the



narrow, dank, eerie passages which lead to the open shafts where the rock ore was surfaced and brought to the outside workings for crushing procedure to extract gold. I didn't relish wandering these dismal passages, which made me feel rather claustrophobic, and I was glad to get out into the warm air.

Our next stop was the Forestry Commission H.Q. and Museum. This was a contrast to the drab mining area, and we were warmly welcomed by Jim Hamilton, the Big Chief of the Forestry. We enjoyed a super tea prepared by Mrs. Margaret Hamilton and Mrs. Rowena Thomas. Finally we moved to the museum, which is ideal for the blind, so much that can be touched—stuffed animals and birds, preserved local fauna and flora, and renovated rock-crushing machinery.

### Thank You Dinner

As a small token of our appreciation, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas accepted an invitation to wine and dine with us for our last dinner at the Red Lion. John Simpson  
*continued overleaf.*

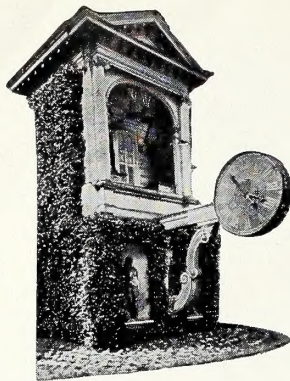


*At the Maesgwyn Forest Centre, Eric Jones shows John Simpson a bird of prey.*

*The party visiting a thinning working site on Sunday.*







# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

## Record of Service

**Cliff Hoyle** of Chadderton, Oldham, worked for Hawker Siddeley Aviation as an Inspector of components for 31 years up to his retirement in March. This represents his entire working life after he was blinded while serving in Italy with the King's Liverpool Regiment during the Second World War. After training at Church Stretton, he joined the firm in September, 1945.

This Hawker - Siddeley photograph shows Cliff receiving his retirement gifts from the Group Inspection Manager, Mr. John Smallwood.

Cliff's personal record of service is outstanding—in conjunction with two other

St. Dunstaners, Bert Frost and John Mooney, it is probably unique. All three worked at Hawker-Siddeley and between them totalled no less than 80 years service—and, so far as we know, there is no other factory where three St. Dunstaners have served so long. Bert Frost was the first of the three to retire, but John Mooney is still there.



## ANOTHER WELCOME—*continued*

proposed a toast of thanks on behalf of us all, and Bob and Rowena Thomas, in reply, toasted "The Ladies of St. Dunstan's".

We all sincerely trust that we shall have another chance to climb Cader Idris next June, and to meet once again such a helpful and friendly bunch of people.

Thanks to St. Dunstan's for making such a venture possible.

**Bill Shea** writes:

I was very disappointed, naturally, about the weather stopping us doing the climb, but all was not lost. The rest of the programme, the Red Lion, and the enthusiasm of Bob Thomas and his mates more than made up for a bit of bad weather.

Joan and I would like to say a big Thank you to everyone concerned in making the week-end so enjoyable.

## Quite a Compliment

Among the British athletes taking part in the Olympic Games, Geoff Capes, holder of the British shot put record has been talking about keeping fit and training. Recently, the *Sunday Express* published an interview with Geoff Capes in which this quotation appeared: "He now has a blind physiotherapist, who he reckons to be the best in the world". The physiotherapist in question is none other than our **Bill Shea**, and that is quite a compliment.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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It is difficult to believe that four weeks have passed since we bade you farewell with "Hasta la Vista". However, the vista has now hasted and so we bring you our June news hot from the presses—"hot" being the operative word. With commendable restraint we refrain from commenting on the weather, and merely say "COR!!"

## Derby Day

On June 2nd we set out for Epsom and the Derby, loaded to the gunwales with food, drink, ice-cream, coats in case it turned cold, sun-hats in case it turned tropical, macs and wellies just in case—oh, and quite a lot of people too. We rendezvoused with Tom Eales and Billy Rundle of the catering staff at the Surrey Yeoman (where a cooling glass of cider did not come amiss), and then off we went to the course, happily munching our way through our appetizing lunch-packs. Soon after our arrival, the Queen, lovely in pink, drove regally along the course, and the Pearly Kings and Queens, resplendent in purple plumes and thousands of pearl buttons, entertained with a knees-up. Gypsies offered us bunches of heather, or the prospect of a long and happy life—both at a price. The incessant click of camera shutters sounded like the opening bars of a tango, though the hoarse shouts of the bookies were less than romantic. The strawberries and cream were delicious and gave us much pleasure. The whole day was a wonderful kaleidoscope of colour, movement, excitement and noise—it had an atmosphere all its own. We believe there was some horse-racing too.

The Theatre Royal catered for a variety of tastes; *Equus*, by Peter Shaffer, was brilliantly clever, but the subject matter was distasteful—Chekhov's *Three Sisters*, starring Janet Suzman and Nigel Davenport, was filled with Russian gloom and despair. At the end of the month, the pendulum swung to the other extreme and the plays were lightweight and superficial—nothing wrong in that, but both *One of the Family* and *Some of my Best Friends are Husbands*—(no comment)—lacked wit and sparkle.

The twice-weekly drives continued to be popular, but it was sad to see the countryside looking so parched. Came the Sports Weekend, and—you've guessed it. It rained. We tried hard to convince ourselves that it was merely a heavy dew, but alas, the drizzle went steadily on. Fortunately, our Sports Officer had made alternative arrangements, and thanks in great part to his forethought a successful weekend resulted. It was followed by five days of fishing, when the sun blazed down—noses peeled and shoulders burned, but a splendid time was enjoyed.

## Peter Larsen

One of our favourite entertainers, Mr. Peter Larsen, visited us again, and had us swaying, tapping and hip-swinging to his compulsive music. We were also treated to a very enjoyable concert given by the "Harmony Express"—you may remember they started life as "Four Men in a Bar". Our final concert in the House during June was given by the Portsmouth Male Voice Choir; twenty five of them came to Brighton for the day, many of them accompanied by their wives, and they wound up their visit to the town by changing into evening dress and singing for us. On what must have been the hottest evening for many years, they threw modesty to the winds and discarded their dinner jackets. Between numbers they consumed gallons of lemonade, and the VAD staff had quite a problem preparing 100 ice-cream wafers in the space of minutes—it was so hot that the ices were melting as we prepared them. Our visitors gave us a most enjoyable evening, presenting a varied and well-balanced programme. One of their fine baritones sang that lovely old song "Leaving", which told of a faithful old dog, leaving his master for the Great Kennel in the Sky. There wasn't a dry eye in the house, but we love a spot of sentiment. A selection of hearty sea-shanties restored our equilibrium, and we yo-ho-ho-ed with a will. Our pleasure in this well-presented concert was expressed most sincerely by Eddie Allchin.

The following night was equally hot,



and we were profoundly grateful to Matron for allowing the VAD staff to wear their own summer dresses instead of uniform, to the dance. This happy state of affairs will continue while the almost-tropical weather lasts, and it is really rather nice to see colourful dresses around the House.

At our August Bank Holiday Dance, prizes will be awarded for the wittiest and most original costumes illustrating song titles.

Our St. Dunstaner **Peter Jones**, of Sheffield, has contributed a series of articles to the *New Beacon* on woodwork. These have now been reprinted as a collection under the title *Woodwork and the Visually Handicapped*. The publication is available in Braille (Cat. No. 41479), and any St. Dunstaner wishing to obtain a copy may do so at the concessionary price of 36p on application to **Mrs. Lefrere, Men's Supplies at Headquarters**.



*Hilary Forster, well-known to our readers as a "dancing daughter" was married in April. This picture shows Hilary, with her father, Robert, arriving at St. John's Church, Moor Allerton, Leeds.*

## CLUB NEWS

### THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during June were:

3rd June	1st	<b>W. Miller</b>
	2nd	C. Hancock
10th June	1st	<b>W. Miller</b>
	2nd	C. Hancock
17th June	1st	<b>W. Miller</b>
	2nd	C. Hancock
24th June	1st	<b>W. Miller</b>
	2nd	J. Majchrowicz

### MIDLAND

Since my last report we have had events take place within the Club: the first being our usual meeting in June which, although another quiet one owing to holidays and sickness among members, was still a very happy one. A few games of Dominoes were played and there was plenty of chatter as usual over one subject or another.

The tea for this meeting was prepared for us by Mrs. Olwyn Rea and we all thanked her for a lovely spread.

We are all very sorry that our old friend and very good member, Dennis Beddoes, has not been able to attend club meetings for some little time as he has been rather poorly of late, but I do know he is looking forward very much to joining us again as soon as he feels well enough. Everyone sends best wishes to you, Den.

### Symonds Yat

Our second event was our outing to Symonds Yat on Sunday, 4th July. It was a glorious day, a little too hot really, but I think that everyone enjoyed it. Most of us enjoyed a trip on the river, about the coolest spot.

We had a very nice lunch at the Garden Restaurant and then had the afternoon and early evening to do just as we liked.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
Secretary



## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

Our monthly dance was held on 12th June and was well attended by Club members and St. Dunstaners on holiday. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening, and our next dance will be held on 14th August.

On Wednesday, 30th June, a trip was organised to the Congress Theatre, Eastbourne. After an enjoyable tea in the Winter Gardens and a stroll along the seafront, we saw an excellent show with Harry Secombe as the star. The ladies were impressed by the costumes and scenery and, to add to our pleasure, Mr. Secombe came to the coach and met everyone. How kind he is is legendary and when we learned that he had suffered a bad illness, we were very touched that he had made this extra effort to meet us. Bob Osborne, Chairman of Entertainments, thanked Mr. Secombe and Bob was assured that Harry will visit and entertain us at Ian Fraser House when his commitments permit.

Any Club member visiting Ian Fraser House wishing to participate in any future outings, please contact the Entertainments Committee.

*BILL PHILLIPS*

## Whist Aggregate Scores 16th June, 1976

### Ladies

1st	Mrs. B. Griffiths	87
2nd	Mrs. E. M. Dodgson	85
3rd	Mrs. P. Lethbridge	83

### Gentlemen

1st	W. Lethbridge	88
2nd	R. Bickley	84
3rd	C. Walters	82

## Dominoes Aggregate Results 9th June, 1976

1st	Mrs. B. Griffiths
2nd	Mrs. F. Pike
	Mrs. P. Padley
	Mr. T. Giles

## 7th July, 1976

1st	Mrs. C. Preedy
	Mrs. H. Webster
	Mr. R. Osborne
	Mr. W. Burnett

## BRIDGE SECTION

Our sixth pairs match was held on Saturday, 26th June. The winners were:

### North-South

F. Griffie and Mrs. E. Gover

### East-West

Miss B. Simon and Mrs. Green

On the following Sunday, a match was played against the Saltdean Saturday Bridge Club. Although everyone enjoyed the game, the visitors, as expected, proved too good for the St. Dunstan's team.

*WALTER LETHBRIDGE*

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## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 312*

### In the Absence of Mrs. Petersen

by Nigel Balchin

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading Time 8 hours*

Jim Petersen's wife, Sarah, is killed in an air crash in America. Shortly afterwards, in Paris, he meets Katerina Feldic who bears a striking resemblance to Sarah. To make the point he shows the girl her passport.

Katerina arrives at his hotel with a proposition. She wants him to take her, posing as his wife, on a visit to her native Yugoslavia in order to smuggle some family jewels out.

Against his better judgement Petersen agrees. The journey to Belgrade is uneventful and it seems as if the operation will be easy to accomplish.

But gradually his suspicions are aroused. What is behind the nightly disappearances of Katerina? And who is the mysterious man he has seen her with? And on reflection the jewels don't seem valuable enough to risk her returning to Yugoslavia, where she is allegedly on the police "wanted" list.

His suspicions are well-founded and Mr. Petersen is in for some nasty shocks.

The book is readable enough I suppose, but the plot is a bit thin in places and I kept getting the feeling I'd heard it all before.



# READING TIME

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*Continued*

**Cat. No. 184**

## **Where Eagles Dare**

by Alistair Maclean

*Read by David Broomfield*

*Reading Time 8½ hours*

An all-action yarn and real vintage Maclean. Gestapo headquarters are situated in the *Schloss Adler*, high in the Bavarian mountains. It is an impregnable fortress, the only way in (and out) is by cable railway controlled from inside the castle.

There's a prisoner up there, an American general who knows all about Operation Overlord. If he spills the beans (and the Gestapo will undoubtedly see to it that he does) the Allied cause is lost. Ergo, he must be rescued.

Impossible, you might think. Well of course it's impossible! But to the indestructible Major John Smith and his hand-picked crew of dare-devils, the impossible takes just that bit longer.

They do get into the castle and they do bring out the American, leaving the *Schloss Adler* rather the worse for wear (earlier they burn down a railway station as a kind of preliminary canter).

Matters are a little complicated by the discovery that there are traitors in Major Smith's outfit and these have to be winkled out. At the end of the book there is a masterly "twist" which I defy any reader to foresee.

Action-packed, fast-moving, riveting stuff!

**Cat. No. 1296**

## **Let's Look At Paris**

by Patrick Pringle

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading Time 5½ hours*

This is not just another guide-book. The author has made a selection of a few of the many attractions of the French capital and dealt with them in some detail, together with a wealth of historical background. I learned more French history from this small book than ever I did at school!

We take a trip on a *bateau mouche*, visit the famous Flea Market, join in the July 14th celebrations. There is a graphic and moving account of the 1944 uprising and the subsequent liberation of Paris.

The book is generously besprinkled with off-beat facts (fascinating or completely useless, depending on your mood and temperament). There are no *gendarmes* in Paris (the local cop is *un agent de Police*). There are twenty-three cemeteries in Paris (one for dogs). And 40,000 trees. You can, if you wish, have dinner up a tree at the *Parc* (Swiss Family) *Robinson!* The obelisk in the middle of *La Place de Bastille* does *not* commemorate the Revolution. And, after the fall of the prison, whatever became of the keys?

This bright and cheerful little book won't perhaps take the place of the *Michelin*, but it would make a splendid companion to it.

**Cat. No. 1350**

## **Inspector Ghote Breaks an Egg**

by H. R. F. Keating

*Read by Michael de Morgan*

*Reading Time 8 hours*

Inspector Ghote of the Bombay C.I.D. gets a telephone call from The Eminent Figure. He is to investigate the mysterious death, fifteen years before, of the first wife of the Municipal Chairman of a small town.

Ghote soon discovers that the Chairman is a powerful man. Practically everybody is on his payroll. Even the local Holy Man is prepared to fast unto death unless the case is dropped.

Everywhere the inspector meets hostility, fear, evasion and deceit. He narrowly escapes serious injury at the hands of the Chairman's hired thugs. But he carries on doggedly, asking awkward questions, tracing witnesses, turning up odd scraps of information—and uncovering some surprising facts in the process.

Until at last, inspector Ghote cracks an egg—and the case.

An intriguing story of painstaking investigation, set against the unusual background of a small Indian town.



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Reilly* of Blackburn are pleased to announce that their daughter, Kathleen, was married to Geoffrey Wolstenholme on Saturday, 19th June at Holy Souls Church, Blackburn.

*Mr. and Mrs. William Rowland* of Lambeth, London, are pleased to announce that their grand-daughter, Sally, was married to Stephen Lyons on 12th June at St. Lawrence Church, Morden, Surrey.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Salters* of Liverpool are pleased to announce that their son, Benjamin, was married to Miss Denise Parkes on 26th June.

*Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Smith* of Shefford, Bedfordshire, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Mary, was married to Mr. William Rock, at Biggleswade Registry Office on Saturday, 8th May.

## Silver Wedding

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Knight* of Heslington, Yorkshire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 28th June, 1976.

## Grandparents

### Congratulations to:

*Mr. Henry Cope* of Newcastle - under - Lyme, on the birth of his first grandchild, a girl, Laurie Irene, born on 6th June to his daughter, Joy, and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Dunkley* of Northampton, on the birth of a grandson, Oliver, in March to their daughter, Mavis, and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Edmunds* of Mansfield, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Lauren, born on 12th April to their daughter, Andrea, and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Peter Logan* of North Shields, on the birth of a grandson, Robert, to their daughter, Sonia, and her husband on 19th June.

*Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Ostle* of Cocker-mouth, Cumbria, on the birth of a grandson, Simon, to their son Michael and his wife on 12th May.

## Deaths

### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mr. and Mrs. George Bickley* of Peacehaven, on the recent death of Mrs. Bickley's mother.

*Mr. Charles Kirk* of Lancing, whose wife, Frances, died on 15th June.

*Mr. Edward Paris* of New Malden, Surrey, whose wife, Essie May, died on 16th June.

*Mr. Charles Pilgrim* of Saltdean, whose wife, Elsie Grace, died on 8th June.

*Mr. Joshua Williams* of Swansea, whose sister died in June.

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## In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following **St. Dunstaners** and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Bertie Barnes, O.B.E., B.Sc.**

*Royal Engineers*

Bertie Barnes, of Willerby, E. Yorks., died at home on the 15th June, 1976, at the age of 82.

He was commissioned in the First World War and carried out special research work with the Royal Engineers, locating long range German guns by sound ranging. After the War he entered the Civil Service, finally becoming a Senior Inspector of Taxes (Advisory), Inland Revenue; he was awarded the O.B.E. in 1950. He had suffered from mustard gas during the War, his sight eventually failed and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1951, by which time he had taught himself Braille. He retired in 1958 and his wife died in 1971, since when he lived with members of his family. His health had deteriorated recently and he was nursed devotedly at home by his daughter and her family.

He leaves a daughter and a son, both married, and grandchildren.



# In Memory

*Continued*

## **John Charles Gwynne. *Royal Engineers***

John Charles Gwynne of Kingsthorpe, Hereford, died on 10th June, at the age of 83.

He enlisted in 1915 with the Royal Engineers and served with them as a Sapper until 1919 when he became blind as the result of a mustard gas attack in Lille, France. He did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1974 and, although he did not have the best of health, we are happy that he was able to enjoy his garden which he had cultivated himself over the years.

Mr. Gwynne worked for many years in the Maintenance Section of the Guy's Hospital Estate, Kingsthorpe, before retiring at the age of 65.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Margaret Gwynne, and one son.

## **Albert Charles Lamper. *Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve***

Albert Charles Lamper of Brighton, died on 2nd July, 1976 at the age of 70.

Mr. Lamper served as a Leading Aircraftman with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve from 1940 until his discharge in 1946 and was a prisoner-of-war in Java from 1941 until the end of the Second World War. Having suffered considerable deprivation as a P.O.W., he was discharged from the Services due to ill health but prior to and after his war service he worked for the Brighton Equitable Co-operative Society, by whom he was employed for a total of 37 years.

Regrettably, our St. Dunstaner had been in very poor health for some time but was on a convalescent stay at Pearson House at the time of his death, following an accident in his home.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ivy Blanche Lamper, and one son.

## **Ernest Frank Lovejoy. *Royal Navy***

Ernest Frank Lovejoy of Soberton, Southampton, died on 7th July, 1976 at the age of 55.

Prior to enlistment in 1939, Mr. Lovejoy worked as a shepherd for a few years and on joining the Royal Navy at the outbreak of the Second World War he served in H.M.S. Anthony.

As a result of an injury received during his War service, Mr. Lovejoy's health sadly deteriorated over the years and he was nursed devotedly by his wife. He was a frequent visitor to our Homes in Brighton, where he was affectionately known as "Ernie".

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Patricia Ellen Lovejoy, one son and two daughters.

## **Montague William Pearce. *Queen's West Surreys***

Montague William Pearce of Basingstoke, Hampshire, died on 25th June, 1976 at the age of 86.

He served with the Queen's West Surreys during the First World War. Before enlisting he had been a gardener and after his discharge in 1919 he went to assist his father-in-law in running a farm where he worked until his retirement at the age of 66, but gardening remained his main hobby.

After the death of his wife in 1973, our St. Dunstaner was nursed devotedly by his elder daughter.

He leaves two daughters, Miss Kathleen Pearce and Mrs. Joan Whitcombe.

## **Alfred Olerenshaw. *Machine Gun Corps***

Alfred Olerenshaw, of Altrincham, Cheshire, died at home on the 3rd July, 1976, at the age of 81.

He enlisted on the 29th August, 1914, was wounded at the Dardanelles and later commissioned, and served until 1920. He worked in industry and as a newsagent until the sight of his remaining eye failed; he came to St. Dunstan's in 1973. In recent years he had been in and out of hospital a good deal, but always cheerfully hoped for improvement. He had been home for a time when his condition deteriorated considerably just before his death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jessica Olerenshaw, married son and grandchildren.

## **Alexander Sterno. *Merchant Navy***

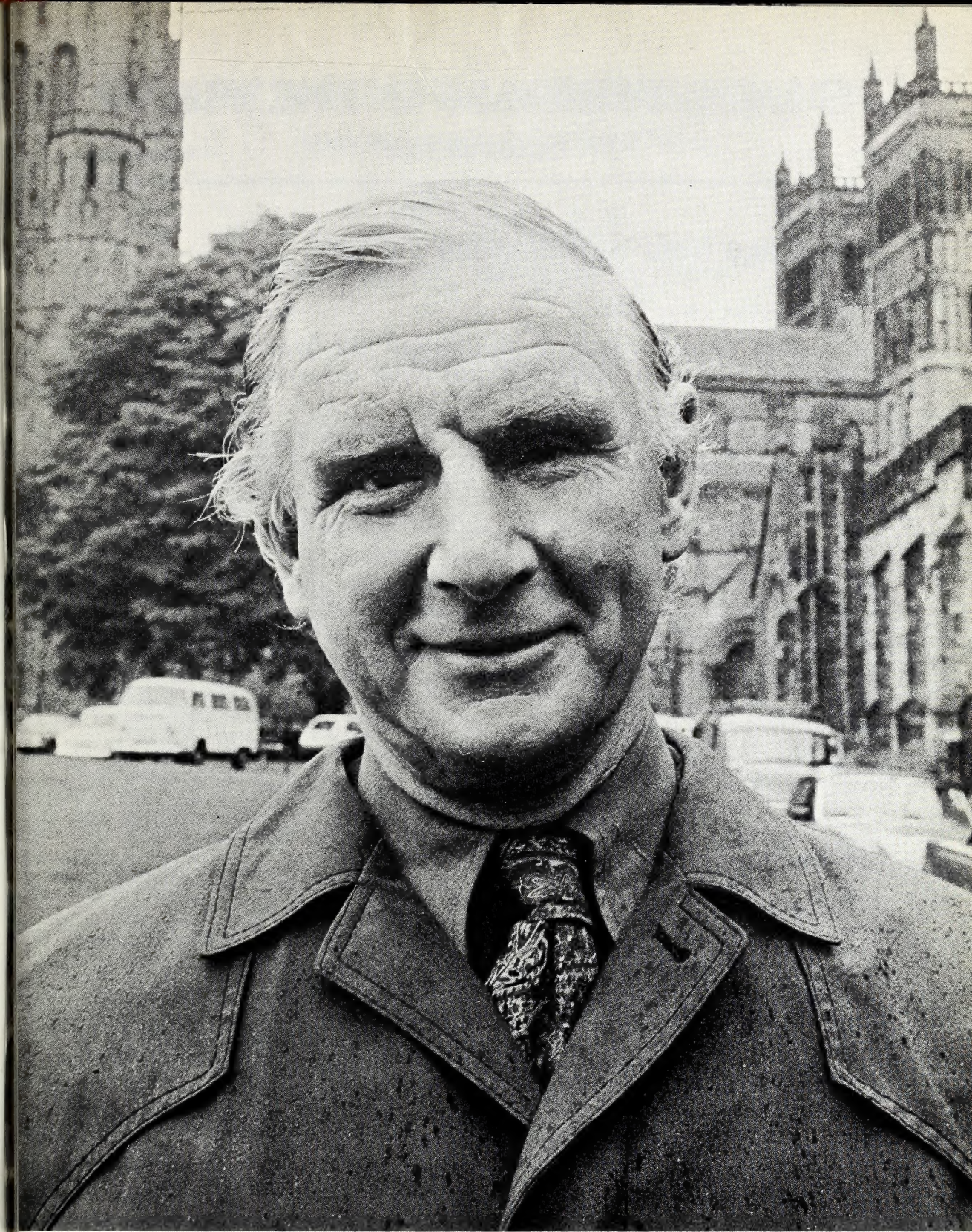
Alexander Sterno of Birmingham, died on 6th June at the age of 87.

He served with the Merchant Navy from 1915 as a chief cook in British Troopships. He was invalided out when he became ill and his blindness developed as a result of this illness. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1919 and trained as a boot repairer, also making mats as a hobby.

Our St. Dunstaner worked for many years as a boot repairer, turning out a very high standard of workmanship and, through hard work and perseverance, he was eventually able to open a shop, finally retiring from this occupation at the age of 69, in 1958. During his years of retirement, Mr. Sterno enjoyed cultivating the garden, which was done most beautifully, being described by one member of our staff as "like a miniature park". He also corresponded, in several languages, with the many friends he had made during his extensive travels abroad.

Mr. Sterno was a widower, and leaves one son, Harry, and his family with whom our St. Dunstaner had lived for the past 14 years.





**St Dunstons Review October**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 678

OCTOBER 1976

10p MONTHLY

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## Message from the Chairman:

### St. Dunstan's Day 1976

St. Dunstaners everywhere will remember that the anniversaries of the deaths of Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser of Lonsdale will occur in December.

Last year it was decided that we should have a private "St. Dunstan's Day", when we would all remember "C.A.P." and Lord Fraser in whatever way we each chose.

This year I suggest that the 12th December, which is the Sunday mid-way between the two anniversaries, should be kept as our day. I am therefore writing this note in good time so that our overseas St. Dunstaners and friends may join us in thought on that date.

May "St. Dunstan's Day, 1976" unite us all in thankful memory of the lives of our two great leaders.

Jon Earnest-Dune

## Message from Lady Fraser:

### To Overseas St. Dunstaners

Knowing how difficult the posts can be throughout the world, I am thinking well ahead in order to get my greetings for Christmas to all overseas St. Dunstaners and friends. I do not now send personal cards and I am therefore asking the Editor of the *Review* to print this very early message.

I send you my love and I hope you and your families will all have a very happy time at Christmas and good fortune in the New Year.

IRENE FRASER

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**COVER PICTURE:** Alan Milne "against the background of the ancient cathedral city he has made his home" see "Ways of Life" on centre pages.



# **St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW**

**SUPPLEMENT OCTOBER 1976**

## **IMPROVEMENTS IN WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS**

### **WAR PENSIONS**

#### **Basic Pension**

The Pension for 100% disablement is to be increased by £3.20 a week and proportionately for lower assessments, so that a private soldier with a 100% disablement pension will receive £25.00 a week instead of £21.80 a week as at present.

#### **Constant Attendance Allowance**

A St. Dunstaner with guiding vision at present receiving £4.35 will receive £5.00 a week. The rate for total blindness which is at present £8.70 will be increased to £10.00. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who now has £13.05 a week will be entitled to £15.00 a week, and a St. Dunstaner with exceptionally severe disabilities, such as the loss of both hands, additional to blindness who at present receives £17.40, will receive £20.00 a week.

#### **Comforts Allowance**

There is to be an increase in this Allowance from £3.70 to £4.30 a week for the totally blind and for the Unemployability Supplement pensioner, and from £1.85 to £2.15 a week for the pensioner with guiding vision.

#### **Unemployability Supplement**

This Supplement which is payable to those War Pensioners who by reason of their pensionable disability are unemployable, is to be increased from £14.20 to £16.30 a week, and any family allowances which might be payable with this Supplement will also be increased as follows for the 100% pensioner:

Wife or other adult dependant  
from £8.40 to £9.70

First Child  
£6.88 to £7.83

Second Child and Subsequent Children  
£5.37 to £6.32

#### **Invalidity Allowance**

This Allowance, payable to those War Pensioners who are awarded the Unemployability Supplement prior to attaining the age of 60 (55 for women), has also been increased. Where the incapacity for work begins before the age of 35 the Allowance is increased from £2.80 to £3.20, where the onset of the incapacity falls between the ages of 35 to 45 the Allowance is increased to £2.00 instead of £1.70, and where the onset occurs between 45 and 60 (55 for women) the new rate is £1.00 instead of 85p.

#### **Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance and Severely Disabled Occupational Allowance**

Both these Allowances are to be increased, to £10.00 and £5.00 a week respectively.

#### **Clothing Allowance**

There is to be a small increase in this Allowance (payable where there is exceptional wear and tear of clothing because of an amputation or for some other special reason) to a maximum of £36.00 a year. (Lower rate £23.00).

#### **Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation**

This Allowance which is paid in exceptional cases only to a very small



number of St. Dunstaners who receive less than 100% pensions is to be increased from up to £8.72 a week to up to £10.00 a week maximum.

Examples which may help St. Dunstaners to appreciate how the increases affect them personally may be found on page 3, but if there are any difficulties, will they please get in touch with Mr. L. Slade, our Pensions Officer, at Headquarters.

### War Widows

The standard rate of pension for a War Widow aged 40 or over, or under that age with children, is to be increased from £17.20 per week to £19.80 per week. The Rent Allowance for War Widows with children increases from up to £6.70 per week to £7.50 per week. The age allowances for elderly Widows are to be increased to £1.95 for those ladies between 65 and 70 years of age and to

£3.90 for those ladies over 70 years of age.

The increased rates of pension and allowances will operate as from the first pay day in the week commencing 15th November, 1976, which means that the effective date of payment in the majority of cases should be Wednesday, 17th November, 1976.

### Industrial Injuries Act

The 100% Disablement Pension payable under this Act to employees disabled in the course of their employment is to be increased from £21.80 a week to £25.00 a week with proportionate increases for lower assessments and some of the allowances payable with the Disablement Pension, which are very much in line with those payable to War Pensioners, are also to be increased.

The Industrial Pension for widows which is at present £13.85 a week is to be raised to £15.85.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE

The standard flat rate of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits will go up from £11.10 to £12.90 a week for single people and from £18.00 to £20.90 for married couples.

Retirement Pensions are to be increased for the single person to £15.30 a week and for the married couples to £24.50

The Widow's Pension will also be increased from £13.30 to £15.30 a week.

Other proposed National Insurance Benefits improvements include Invalidity Benefit, Dependency Allowances for Children, Widowed Mother's Allowance, Guardian's Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Maternity Allowance.



## EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS Employable

	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
	£	£
<b>Totally Blind</b>		
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	8.70	10.00
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<u>£35.08</u>	<u>£40.18</u>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	4.35	5.00
Comforts Allowance	1.85	2.15
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	<u>£28.88</u>	<u>£33.03</u>
<b>Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate of Attendance Allowance</b>	£	£
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	17.40	20.00
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Special Occupational Allowance	4.40	5.00
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance	8.70	10.00
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.30	0.38
	<u>£56.88</u>	<u>£65.18</u>

## Unemployable

	£	£
<b>Totally Blind</b>		
Basic Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	8.70	10.00
Unemployability Supplement	14.20	16.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Wife's Allowance	8.40	9.70
*Invalidity Allowance	0.85	1.00
	<u>£57.65</u>	<u>£66.30</u>
<b>Guiding Vision</b>	£	£
Basing Pension	21.80	25.00
Attendance Allowance	4.35	5.00
Unemployability Supplement	14.20	16.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	4.30
Wife's Allowance	8.40	9.70
*Invalidity Allowance	0.85	1.00
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£61.30</u>

\* Based on the assumption that the St. Dunstaner is over 45 when first drawing Unemployability Supplement.

If a St. Dunstaner is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £5.50 a week.



\* Based on the assumption that the St Dunstan is over 45 when first drawing Unemployment Supplement.  
If a St Dunstan is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £5.50 a week.

Guiding Vision		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
Unemployment Supplement	14.30	14.30	14.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>
Totally Blind		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
Unemployment Supplement	14.30	14.30	14.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>
Totally Blind		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
Unemployment Supplement	14.30	14.30	14.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>

Unemployment Supplement

Guiding Vision		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
Unemployment Supplement	14.30	14.30	14.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>
Totally Blind		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
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Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>

Unemployment Supplement

Guiding Vision		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
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Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>
Totally Blind		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
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Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>

Unemployment Supplement

Guiding Vision		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
Attendance Allowance	4.35	8.70	8.70
Unemployment Supplement	14.30	14.30	14.30
Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
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	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>
Totally Blind		Unemployment Supplement	
Basic Pension	21.80	21.80	21.80
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Comforts Allowance	3.70	3.70	3.70
Wife's Allowance	8.40	8.40	8.40
* Invalidity Allowance	0.85	0.85	0.85
	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>	<u>£53.30</u>

Unemployment Supplement



## MR. G. P. OWENS

Several St. Dunstaners have written to me asking me to open a Presentation Fund for Mr. Owens upon his retirement, which takes place at the end of October. I shall be very pleased to act as Honorary Treasurer to this Fund and will St. Dunstaners who wish to subscribe please send their contributions, made payable to St. Dunstan's, to me at Headquarters, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5QN.

C. D. WILLS

## ROBERTS RADIOS

Would all St. Dunstaners who have a Roberts radio please note that it is now possible to have it serviced locally (after the initial twelve months' guarantee period has expired).

If you have any difficulty in finding a local firm to do this, the address of your nearest Roberts service depot can be obtained from Mrs. Lefrere at Men's Supplies, Headquarters.

## BRIDGE INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Connell and Mrs. Field will be the Instructors at the Bridge Instruction Weekend for beginners and more advanced players, to be held at Ian Fraser House from Friday, 12th November, to Sunday, 14th November, 1976.

If you wish to attend, will you kindly advise Miss Bridger, the Bookings Clerk at Headquarters.

## WINTER INDOOR SPORTS

Would all St. Dunstaners wishing to enter in the Winter Indoor Sports, mentioned in the last issue of the *Review*, please make application to me for entry form and details of events not later than October 15th.

JOCK CARNOCHAN

## Note From Pensions Officer

When a St. Dunstaner enters hospital and is likely to remain an in-patient for a while, would he please arrange for his Pension Order Book to be sent to our Commandant and not to D.H.S.S. Blackpool.

L. A. SLADE

## TRIBUTE

### J. SWALES, M.B.E., M.C.

A formal obituary for Joe Swales, Saltburn-by-Sea, who died on the 31st August, appears in this *Review*, but readers may also like to read the following references to this outstanding First War St. Dunstaner:

The Cremation Service in Middlesbrough was attended by a large crowd of mourners, including Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Fletcher, of Billingham, who represented St. Dunstan's and all St. Dunstaner friends. The Reverend Michael R. Corney said: "We give thanks for his life and service to the community and to his family. The gift of human life is God's greatest gift to the world and the qualities of Joseph Swales gave many people cause for thanksgiving. We pray that his family and friends may find strength and courage from their memories of him."

Mrs. Nora Airey, who was Joe's companion for many years and frequently escorted him to St. Dunstan's Reunions, asks us to convey her deep appreciation for all the kind enquiries and sympathy she has received and writes: "A kinder friend and companion than Mr. Swales it would be impossible to find. I shall greatly miss him. He was always proud to be connected with St. Dunstan's and to attend the various functions and to meet many very good friends."

### PROFESSOR K. H. C. McINTYRE

Congratulations to Ken McIntyre, of Durban, who has been appointed for a second term of office as Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Natal University. He was first appointed Dean for two years from October, 1974, and this year was asked whether he would accept a second term; he agreed but for one further year only, as he feels that three years is long enough!

Congratulations also to Ken and Billie on the birth of their first grandchild, a girl, Claire Lynne, born to their daughter, Alison, and her husband.



# REUNIONS

## LONDON TWO

The eleventh and last of the 1976 regional Reunions was held at the Hotel Russell on Saturday, 10th July. There were 17 St. Dunstaners from the First World War, 69 from the Second World War and 3 Post War men.

All together 206 people sat down to lunch and we were delighted to have with us Lady Ellerman, in addition to retired members of the staff, Mr. Lloyds, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Smith, and Mr. Townsend.

The arrangements were in the capable hands of Miss Davis, who was assisted by Miss Newbold. The St. Dunstaners came mainly from Central London, but others from the Home Counties and even further afield.

Our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, presided at the Reunion and he was accompanied by his wife. In his speech after lunch, Mr. Garnett-Orme said: "I welcome you all, especially those St. Dunstaners who are attending their first Reunion: these are Mr. A. B. Coveney of Dover and Mr. G. W. Pullen of Leigh-on-Sea. We are also delighted to have with us from Northern Ireland Mr. Leggett of Bangor, and Mr. Scott of Belfast, and from Melbourne Mr. Westaway, who is Assistant Director of the Royal Guide Dogs Association of Australia.

"It gives me special pleasure to tell you that Lady Ellerman is with us this afternoon. She is well-known to most of you, but I would like to tell our recently joined St. Dunstaners that she and her late husband, Sir John, have been outstanding helpers of St. Dunstan's in every possible way for many years. As well as her interest in St. Dunstan's here, Lady Ellerman is an active member of the Board of Directors of St. Dunstan's (South Africa), and her charm and presence here today will add much to the enjoyment of our Reunion".

Mr. Garnett-Orme next referred to the retired members of the staff who were present and those still serving, saying that their experience would be available for St. Dunstaners to talk about any problems which were worrying them.



*Miss Phyllis Rogers with Vera Kemmish.*

Saying that Lady Fraser could, unfortunately, not be at the Reunion, Mr. Garnett-Orme assured his listeners that the personal attention which she takes in everyone was just as keen as it always had been.

"Miss Rogers," said our Chairman, "retired officially at the end of the year, but she has kindly stayed on with us on a part-time basis until the end of July so, although this is the last Reunion which she will be attending in a semi-official capacity, we hope we shall see her often in the future. We hope she will come as a long-standing friend and helper. Miss Rogers has been with us eighteen years, and to say that she will be sadly missed by us all is very much an understatement. Working hours have meant nothing to her, because she has been determined to give her personal attention to the affairs of every St. Dunstaner for whom she has been responsible. St. Dunstaners have shown their deep appreciation by giving her a camera and a magnificent cheque. We all wish her many happy years of retirement."

The presentation was then made by Vera Kemmish, Leyton.

Mr. Garnett-Orme then referred to the facilities at the modernised Ian Fraser



House, and he recommended St. Dunstaners to extend their holidays there, visiting either earlier or later in the year. He added that there would be another Sports Day held there in the winter. This was because the Sports Day held in June had been forced indoors by very bad weather but had proved to be a great success.

"I should like to say a special word of thanks to the wives and families of St. Dunstaners, and to those splendid friends we generally call escorts, who are here today", concluded Mr. Garnett-Orme. "Their help and assistance does so much to make it possible for St. Dunstaners to continue to set an example to others of courage and determination to overcome their disabilities".

Miss Phyllis Rogers spoke next and said: "I find this a very moving moment in which to say thank you to you all, and I would like your presence to represent the hundreds of St. Dunstaners who obviously cannot be here today, but have all so generously contributed to my gifts. I am sorry that I cannot show you the wonderful radio that has also been presented to me. I feel that all through the winter I shall have every radio programme and I shall enjoy thinking of you, and in summer I shall have my camera and every time it clicks it'll be a St. Dunstaner on my mind. I must say I have been very deeply touched by the hundreds of letters and cards which you've all sent me. It probably will be difficult for me to send a personal thank you to everyone, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you now.

"I came to St. Dunstan's on the most appropriate day, November 11th, 1957, and that seemed to me to be a very good day to start work with an organisation for ex-service men and women. I have enjoyed my nineteen years immensely, in fact they have passed so quickly I can hardly believe I am going to retire. I leave regretfully, but I would like to thank all my colleagues at Headquarters and, in particular, my Welfare Visitors. Without the devotion and work of my Welfare Visitors, I could never have achieved one-tenth of the things you all think I've done alone.

"I have had the pleasure of working under the guidance of Lord Fraser, and

anyone who has worked under Lord Fraser cannot fail but be impressed, and I shall leave always feeling Lord Fraser's presence among St. Dunstaners. This feeling has, I think, come through to all of you—and all of you have been such kind friends to me that I know my colleague and successor, Miss Penny Lord, will enjoy her next—I hope twenty—years looking after you as I have tried to do, and I do thank you from the bottom of my heart, and I wish you well, and I thank you for your gifts."

In his vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners, Charles Bargery, Aston Clinton, said "It is a wonderful thing to belong to St. Dunstan's and, as my wife said during the week sitting quietly in the sunshine beside me: 'I know why we are receiving all this hot sunshine.' I said 'You mean Patrick Moore or something like that?' She said 'No, it's my belief the good Lord wants to turn us all one colour, black.' Well that's a very good thought but, you know, St. Dunstan's is our sun: it shines on us, it gives us many advantages just as the sun does—and when I was down at Ovingdean a few days ago, I discovered that they want to turn us all black, they'd taken away our soap supply."

Turning to Miss Rogers, Charles Bargery said it was very sad to lose all these kind people who are so good to St. Dunstaners, and he went on "Now don't you think that St. Dunstan's is a sun to us, it gives us light and shade, it gives us health, it gives us friends. But you know to say a word of praise about St. Dunstan's, you could search the whole dictionary all the way through and you could not find one word to express what any St. Dunstaner thinks of St. Dunstan's. I mean it. So will you please accept the few words I've said and I wish to thank you all, every one of you in St. Dunstan's, the staff, on behalf of our boys, and we are a shocking lot. I would like to thank you all for what you have done for us—and may I couple this word of thanks with the staff of this hotel. It was a very nice meal."

After lunch there was dancing, and much animated conversation among friends. So ended the last of the 1976 regional Reunions.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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As we have not met in these pages for two months, there is much to tell you.

Many moons ago, well—early in July—we were invited by Mrs. Askew, the owner of the Bentley Wildfowl Collection at Halland, to tour the grounds and partake of tea. It was a lovely day, the kind hospitality warming us even more than the sunshine. During the last few weeks, we have consumed innumerable Sussex teas at St. Peter's Cottage, Wyndham Farmhouse, Gibby's, Tylden House and Smugglers Farm.

The Theatre Royal has been well patronised; the plays presented were *Time and the Conways* by J. B. Priestley; *Murder with Love* by Francis Durbridge; and *Anastasia* starring that lovely actress, Nyree Dawn Porter and the dashing actor Peter Wyngarde. The following week, Mr. "I-wanna-tell-you-a-story" himself, Max Bygraves, appeared with the Kaye Sisters, in a most entertaining show. Another offering was *Dad's Army*, starring Arthur Lowe and most of the original T.V. cast. Captain Mainwaring is a marvellous piece of character-acting, and it was a joy to see so many young people in the audience laughing hilariously. The show continued for four weeks, and judging by the long queues at the box-office, was packing them in at every performance. During the final two weeks of August, the D'Oyly Carte company gave Gilbert and Sullivan fans a rare treat.

## Record Concert

There have been many entertainments in the House, and it was so nice to welcome old friends from Pearson House. Mr. Michael Hayes gave us a record concert on 4th July, so naturally his programme reflected America's Bicentennial celebrations. By the time we reached God Gless America and The Star-spangled Banner, we were misty-eyed, and had developed transatlantic accents. Instead of our usual polite enquiry in the interval "Would you like a cup of coffee?", we were sorely tempted to say from the corner of our mouths, "Wanna cuppa cawfee, kiddo?" You will

be relieved to learn that British reticence won the day. Michael's programme was very much enjoyed, and we were grateful for all the time and effort he had obviously put into it. Our indebtedness increased when we learned that he had suffered the loss of his mother only a few days previously. What good friends we have—for while it is comparatively simple to be generous with money, to give unstintingly of time and effort is true generosity.

Other entertaining selections of records were played on Sunday evenings by V.A.D.'s Mrs. Alma Hall and Mrs. Janet Catt. We had a play reading, entitled *A Woman's Place*, with guest-readers Miss Eve King and Mr. Leslie Robinson, and members of the staff, which gave food for thought in an entertaining way. Mr. Peter Larsen treated us to a foot-tapping, finger-clicking evening with his music, which seems to flow effortlessly from his finger-tips, demonstrating the art that conceals art.

## Talk on Racing

One afternoon, we had an amusing and informative talk given by Miss Caroline Ramsden. She has written several books on horse-racing, including a history of the now built-upon Manchester Racecourse, of which she was a director. She very wisely refrained from giving us any tips, despite impassioned pleading from some of our dedicated punters. We listened, fascinated, to stories of well-known trainers and jockeys, and much enjoyed the description of the dour Lester Piggott "he has a face like a well-kept grave".

Miss Ramsden's talk was a curtain-raiser to "Sussex Fortnight", which began the following day with the first of our four visits to Goodwood that week. Many changes have taken place there since last year, and we instituted one of our own. We drove straight to the course each day and took our lunch-boxes down to the rails together with the tea-urn. We picnicked happily in the sun, and didn't blame the uninvited guests in yellow and brown for trying to muscle in on our



ample and varied menu. (No dear, not Oswaldtwistle United, wasps). Before the last race each day, a fresh urn of tea was brought down to us by our driver and orderly-of-the-day, and so we were able to get away from the course quickly, and avoid the traffic hold-ups. We really felt that it was all too smooth by half, and that we were bound to get our come-uppance, but so far—so good.

Upon our return from the first day's racing, we were entertained to a concert in the Winter Garden, given by the Sussex Police Choir. Thirty-five good men and true, sporting scarlet blazers, marched the length of the Winter Garden, to warm applause, and they gave us a really first-class concert. The numbers ranged from Gilbert and Sullivan to Mozart, from *The Student Prince* to *The Owl and the Pussycat* and the best of the Seekers. We all had a lovely time, and our thanks were wittily and sincerely expressed by Victor Buck. As the choir marched out, they received an ovation from the large audience, which continued until the last man disappeared. We hope very much that this talented and most professional choir will be able to pay us a return visit.

### Charley's Aunt

Other enjoyable entertainments were given by the Nucleus Theatre Group who played *Charley's Aunt* at a cracking pace; and by Mr. W. Wing, who is associated with Radio Brighton. He gave a nostalgic record programme entitled *Down Memory Lane*, with very old records and matching equipment! On Bank Holiday Sunday we had a splendid Old Time Music Hall, staged by the South Coast Entertainers. Numbers made famous by Marie Lloyd, Lily Morris, Florrie Ford, George Robey and Harry Champion were presented in the authentic pre-1914 manner, complete with a very large Chairman, resplendently dressed, who made the candelabra on his table dance with the force of his gavel. The success of the evening may be judged by the fact that at least six of the audience had selected rear seats, intending to sneak out on the 8 o'clock coach, but at 9.30 p.m. lo! there they were, applauding with the rest of the

delighted audience. Harry Meleson, in a short and witty vote of thanks, expressed our warm appreciation.

On Bank Holiday Saturday, we went to Goodwood, but, to our sorrow, the weather was no longer tropical. That evening, we held the Dominoes Tournament. As the popularity of the Whist Drive has waned over the past months we concentrated on Dominoes only, and awarded extra prizes to the winners. They were:

1st	H. Dakin
2nd	Miss B. Simon
3rd	F. Harriss

and to them we offer our congratulations.

And so we came to the final "happening" of the month—the Fancy Dress Dance on August Bank Holiday Monday. As always, brilliant ideas came to the surface at the last moment—brows were furrowed, requests were made for some very odd-sounding objects, and bursts of laughter floated down the corridors. Prizes were given for the wittiest, prettiest and most amusing representations of song titles, and our most welcome judges were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Larsen. Theirs was a most unenviable task and there were so many good efforts that there had to be two eliminating heats. After much thought, our judges selected the following winners:

Miss B. Bell—Greensleeves
Mrs. D. Lamb—Bee Song (with apologies to Arthur Askey)
Mrs. E. Williams and Terry—Walking My Baby Back Home (Terry was a very large and fractious baby—obviously heading for Reform School)
C. Burt—Magic Moments
E. Corbettis—Gone Fishing
F. Harriss—Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel

It was all great fun, and we congratulate the winners. Our warm thanks are due to the V.A.D. staff who gave so much time and thought to the costumes—they never fail to come up trumps. We waltzed, cha-cha-ed, twisted, charleston-ed and



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**From: Mr. Athelstan Fuller, Hove, Sussex**

Upon my recent retirement, it was a great pleasure to receive from St. Dunstaners and staff here in Brighton, a bedside table and ice bucket together with a very useful cheque!

Since, I fear, my sincere thanks may not have reached all those who subscribed to the cheque, may I please crave space in the St. Dunstan's *Review*.

My wife and I have now purchased several much needed items, including a drill with accessories, for all those jobs about the house which I have been meaning to do for so many years.

So, to all my very many St. Dunstan's friends, may I just say a most sincere thank you for helping to make what, I am sure, will be a most happy retirement.

**From: George Fallowfield, Worthing, Sussex**

I have just pushed the August *Review* aside and scrambled out of bed, and am writing this in a dressing gown, see. That bloke must have had two over the twenty who reckons he saw a ghost as deaf-blind people never see or hear ghosts. There

were two deaf girls going home together late one night and, when passing the City of London cemetery at Manor Park, they saw a ghost in the old bone yard and told others at the club for the deaf, and so other deaf men and women saw this ghost. And in the end about thirty people went to watch one night and saw the ghost, but some of these could *hear* (!) and so, you see, dead opposite the cemetery gates was a street lamp—with the result that, when two tramcars passed, they made a sharp flickering light on the gravestones that looked like a white figure hopping across the cemetery.

**From: Helen Cowdell, Berkhamsted, Herts.**

I would like to thank all the St. Dunstan's campers for the lovely travelling clock they gave me during the last camp at H.M.S. Daedalus. I have been a helper at these camps (Stratford-on-Avon and Little Gaddesden before the war) since 1929. It was impossible to thank all the 50-odd men at the time and wondered if you could find room for a few words of thanks in the *Review*.

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## NATIONAL LIBRARY TO MOVE

The National Library for the Blind is to amalgamate its head office in Westminster and its Manchester branch next year. The whole library will move into a building in Bredbury, Stockport.

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## OVINGDEAN NOTES—continued

even sloshed. (It's the name of a dance—honest!) No wonder some of us (who shall be nameless) crept about the next morning in a decidedly hang-dog way. When you're pushing thirty, the energy must be strictly rationed.

With that pious and totally untrue statement, we bid you farewell until the next revelations from the Big House.

## CONTACT ON TV

Corbett Woodall's career as a TV news-reader was interrupted ten years ago by rheumatoid arthritis. He returns to BBC TV this autumn as co-presenter of a new series for the physically disabled "Contact" which starts on BBC 1 at 12.35 p.m. (mid-day) on 10th October, 1976.

His co-presenter is Jill Lumb. A childhood polio victim, she now teaches in Sheffield.

The ten 25-minute programmes they present include information about services and progress towards integration in the community. The first title in the series has a familiar ring to it: "Does Your Friend Take Sugar?"





# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

## Tall Ships

A New York "ticker-tape" reception is usually reserved for the mighty or famous, in fact there hasn't been one since 1966. It must be an unforgettable experience for the few who enjoy it.

For Janet Baker, daughter of Paul Baker, Sidmouth, it was just one aspect of the voyage of a lifetime as a member of the British all girls crew of the Sir Winston Churchill, one of the fleet of Tall Ships which visited the United States as part of the Bicentennial celebrations there.

Some 3,000 crew members in all marched up Broadway but it was our girls who took the eye in their distinctive

uniforms: white dress with sailor's collar in blue, red bow and blue piping, "boater" hat with Sir Winston Churchill on the ribbon. Their alternative "rig" was blue trousers, red blouse, white belt and shoes, and sun-hat trimmed with red, white and blue. As Paul Baker commented: "It is nice to think that one St. Dunstan's younger generation was in the crew and, literally, showing the flag."

"The Birds of Britain" were a great hit with newspapermen and television crews wherever they went in New York, Rhode Island and Boston. The final race was a disappointment for they were becalmed but they won the Cutty Sark Award, for female crews.

Incidentally, for those St. Dunstaners who might like to get the feel of a sailing ship for themselves, the Royal Yachting Association runs a training scheme which has had very good reports. For information, ring Douglas Hurndall, Seamanship Foundation: 048-62 5022.

## Long Library Service

Patrick Timminney has retired after 32 years as telephonist in the administration section of the Central Library Sheffield. In this Sheffield Corporation photograph he is seen receiving a presentation at his retirement party.





# Disabled Olympics - 1976

by Jock Carnochan

I was privileged to be asked by the British Sports Association for the Disabled to act as Team Coach and escort for the blind section of the British team in the 1976 Toronto Olympiad. The team as a whole comprised 66 wheelchair, 14 amputee and 12 visually handicapped athletes, each section having a Team Coach and two escorts—so you can imagine the organisation involved getting such a large number, plus equipment, on board a D.C.8, each wheelchair case having to be carried to his seat. And on an expedition of this nature it's all hands to the pumps irrespective of what section you belong to, so if anyone thinks that a trip of this nature is a holiday, forget it. But it certainly was an unforgettable experience, and a pleasure to be part of such a fine team.

The games lasted from August 3rd to 11th, and involved 1,700 athletes from all parts of the world representing 50 countries and for the first time the games included blind and amputee competitors. So it is fair to say that the results of these games are the first official blind records in Olympic competition, whereas the World Games held at Stoke Mandeville in 1974 are considered world records as that too was the first time the blind and amputees were involved in World Games—and, make no mistake, the disabled athlete is very much a high standard competitor when you consider that the highest Canadian woman jumper in the Montreal Olympics jumped 1m 87cm and the highest one leg amputee jumper in the disabled Olympics jumped 1m 86cm and these kind of performances were evident in all categories!

## Blind Team

The blind team consisted of four women and eight men, two of the men being our St. Dunstaners Tony Parkinson and Ray Peart, who qualified in the trials at Stoke Mandeville, and I would add that there are a few more St. Dunstan's athletes who could have qualified had

they attended the trials. With the coming of Commonwealth Games in two years, the times and distances listed at the end of this report will give them a target to train for.

Our two St. Dunstaners did not win any medals but certainly competed favourably, the best results coming from Tony Parkinson, particularly in the Javelin where he came 4th of 19 competitors just 3cm short of a Bronze Medal with a distance of 26.23m. This can be regarded as the British record in the T.B. section, the blind Olympic record being 32.50m for a standing throw. In the Shot Putt, Tony's distance was 7.50m, the record being 10.97m and in the Discus 16.20m, the record being 20.27m.

## Tor-Ball

Other events involving the blind were 60m sprint, T.B., and 100m sprint, P.S., green bowling, swimming and Tor-Ball (or Goal Ball). We have a Tor-Ball team which, incidentally, was beaten by the present Olympic champions, Austria, in Berlin two years ago, Austria's team captain being none other than our old friend Willi Hohm. Unfortunately, Tor-Ball was not contested at the Stoke Mandeville trials, why I shall find out.

Our other St. Dunstan's competitor, Ray Peart, competed in the Pentathlon which comprised Shot Putt, Discus, Standing Long Jump, 60m sprint, and 100m free style swimming—all to be completed in 48 hours. Ray's best performance in the Pentathlon was the 100m free style where he came first with a time of 1m 30.81s but, unfortunately, it wasn't his day in the field events. One should remember that swimming and field events training don't mix and, therefore, competitors contemplating Pentathlon require very special training.

Bill Miller will be pleased to know that the Scottish walker, Derek Howie, who beat him in the trials, was the Gold Medal winner, slaughtering the field of 12 walkers by a 2 minute lead. His time for



1,500m was 6m 31s. Other St. Dunstan's sportsmen who went to Kerpape a few years ago will remember Willie McLeod from Scotland: Willie won the Silver Medal in the men's singles green bowling, being beaten by Bob Farmer, an Australian St. Dunstaner.

Like the Montreal games, the Toronto games too were marred somewhat by political problems on account of South Africa's presence. This was very frustrating for the athletes of the countries involved, who had trained so hard for such a long time and were deprived of the opportunity to prove themselves. Eleven countries finally withdrew, mainly Communist block and other African teams, and one Hungarian wheelchair athlete defected and applied for refugee status.

### Hourly Transport

Apart from these minor frustrations, the games generally were very successful, bearing in mind that the accommodation areas were 20 miles apart from the athletic and olympic stadiums, and credit must go to the transport section for providing an hourly service with a fleet of 80 school buses from 8 a.m. until nearly midnight, as the events were running daily from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. most days. The accommodation, which was at the University of Toronto and York University, was excellent, as was the food, and the hospitality of the Canadians was first class as was shown when the various ethnic groups hosted the teams in their individual communities. The British were hosted at the Woodbridge Golf and Country Club. During the evening the main raffle prize was won by Tony Parkinson—a special wheelchair designed by Lord Snowdon—and, as Tony is not quite ready for using it, he has very kindly donated it to a disabled organisation in Blackpool, who will no doubt find someone who has a real need for it.

### Get Down To Training

I would like to conclude by saying that sport for the disabled is growing each year, particularly in the blind world, and I know we at St. Dunstan's have good athletes with many years of competition ahead of them, and my advice is to get down to good hard training throughout the year by getting involved with local

clubs and let's see a few more St. Dunstaners in the next big event.

The Commonwealth Games targets to aim for are:

**Shot Putt** 11m  
**Discus** 35m and over  
**Javelin** 33m  
**60 m sprint** 7.30 secs. (T.B.)  
**100 m sprint** 11.4 secs. (P.S.)  
**Swimming:** 100m front crawl  
 1 min. 09 secs.

**Footnote:** At the recent Stoke Mandeville weekend (September 11th and 12th), Tony Parkinson was awarded a trophy as best all-round blind competitor in the field events.

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## BRIDGE NOTES

During July we managed to complete the two scheduled Individual games. The one due on 3rd July was played on 17th July, our friendly match that day having to be cancelled. The result was:

B. Allen and B. Evans	83
F. Dickerson and H. Meleson	69
H. King and P. Nuyens	66
J. Lynch and L. Douglass	61
R. Armstrong and J. Majchrowicz	54
Miss V. Kemmish and A. Caldwell	45

The second matches were played on 31st July, and the result was:

B. Evans and M. Tybinski	69
P. Nuyens and F. Dickerson	69
J. Carney and H. Meleson	68
L. Douglass and R. Armstrong	67
R. Goding and Miss V. Kemmish	53
J. Majchrowicz and B. Allen	52

After six matches the scores are (with matches played in brackets):

B. Allen	410	(6)
F. Dickerson	394	(6)
L. Douglass	377	(6)
Miss V. Kemmish	364	(6)
H. Meleson	348	(6)
J. Majchrowicz	343	(6)
R. Armstrong	321	(5)
R. Goding	303	(5)
P. Nuyens	300	(5)
B. Evans	289	(4)





UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMICS



## WAYS OF LIFE 29

### CARRYING HIS BAT—

Alan Milne

#### Talking to David Castleton

Alan Milne's early ambition was to become a professional cricketer. "Of course, my family did not approve, and by the time I was sixteen I'd reluctantly decided I wouldn't be quite good enough. It was a significant age because that was 1938, the time of Munich and I think then we all, somehow—my own political awareness dated from that time—were convinced that there was going to be a war and really didn't bother over careers."

In 1940, at the age of seventeen Alan, with a group of his friends volunteered for the Army directly from leaving Uppingham School. "I joined the Artillery first. I was in two Field Training Regiments for about nine months and then I went to OCTU at Ilkley where I learned something about being a gunner as well as playing cricket."

He learned his gunnery well because he was commissioned in October 1941. Later in the war, in November 1943, Alan volunteered for the Commandos. It was as a Captain in charge of a Company of No. 3 Commando that he was wounded just after the Rhine crossing in April 1945. "I was afraid my people were running out of ammunition and I was throwing it up to them when somebody picked me off. I had a bullet wound—left just a tiny scar—it went behind my left eye and out through the right eye severing the optic nerves. I didn't even lose consciousness."

After a spell at Stoke Mandeville, and feeling more or less physically recovered, Alan arrived at Church Stretton in the late summer of 1945. From there he went to

the London Hostel in Avenue Road. "I'd got the minimum qualifications to go to a university—the old Oxford and Cambridge School Certificate and Matriculation. I hadn't worked very hard at school but I'd read a great deal and while I was in the Army I decided that I would like to go to university after the war."

So Alan started at the London School of Economics as an undergraduate in October 1946. He had no particular aim in view, apart from his degree, until his professor, Harold Laski, suggested an academic career.

"He was a very good professor indeed. Not at all the sinister figure he probably appeared as the eminence grise behind the Labour Party. He took a lot of interest in the students. I used to do essays for him, he encouraged me to aim at an academic career and I began to think about this after the first year."

#### Braille for Notes

Studying politics, philosophy and economics Alan found his typing and Braille, learned at Church Stretton, invaluable. "You needed to be able to type to write essays for sighted people to read and you needed to write Braille notes. Nobody can study anything unless they make notes. That's what you need Braille for, not really for reading. In fact I always had volunteer readers. My wife was one of the first—we met at LSE."

"Then there was a man called Silverwood-Cope, who was a solicitor in Lincoln's Inn Fields, just near LSE. He told St. Dunstan's he was available to read and I used to go round to him. Then a chap I got to know acted as a sort of manager. He put up notices in college and it spread. All the time I was a student I had a list of people who would fill in to read if necessary. Most people read aloud better than they think they can. One must encourage them. I found I was doing as much reading on this basis as most of the other students were. But I had to plan carefully and work to a strict time table."

Alan emphasises that Braille is still essential as a means of making notes on what has been read or what has been heard in lectures. "I tell my own students now, not to take down everything verbatim as students tend to do in lectures. They take down far too much and then





*Anita was one of Alan Milne's first readers. Now they read together largely for pleasure.*

they are so appalled by the mass of notes they've got that they never read them. It is far better to listen and take at most an edited summary, then try to reconstruct it afterwards. The very effort of re-thinking fixes it in your mind. As students we would discuss a lecture, see if we could sum it up together and that would help us understand and remember it."

During his period as an undergraduate Alan Milne was the only blind student at the London School of Economics. It was clear his sighted colleagues were helpful towards him but was he something of an odd man out? I asked.

"I was 24 when I started. Ninety per cent of us were ex-service and I was just about the average age. Bernard Levin, who was a contemporary of mine, was an exception. He was only 18. I think we helped each other more. Probably I owed a lot to that atmosphere and that attitude. Really I had it very easy and I think the problems of getting used to being blind

and coping were almost overlaid by the problems and interests of being a student. I don't think I was particularly good at being blind, I just didn't have to bother. A university setting, if the other students respond in this way, is easy because you can go around with people. There's always somebody going to the next lecture and there weren't any problems with escorts. You can join in everything that's going on."

To make a good career in the academic field a First Class degree was essential and in 1949 Alan Milne got his "First". "I didn't know if I'd got one or not. I reckoned I had done about as well as I could and I didn't feel dissatisfied with my exam performance. It was the vital step because it meant I could go on."

### **Electric Atmosphere**

"Perhaps I've been making things sound too rosy. There were certainly moments of anxiety and, I suppose, of stress. To begin with as an undergraduate taking your final exams—especially with a great deal turning on it. I always remember when I took my finals, the first day they started at LSE the atmosphere was absolutely electric. I can never remember, even before action in the Army, quite such a needle feeling.

"Then when I was a postgraduate academic jobs were very scarce and we had moments when we wondered whether I would get a job at all. One time in desperation Anita wrote letters to every college at Oxford and Cambridge to see if they had anything, a research studentship or something. This was when I was finishing my doctorate but it wasn't clear what I was going to do next. There were these times when things were uncertain and by then I'd got such a taste for the university life I would have hated to have had to leave it."

The first of these times came after Alan's Ph.D., obtained through a postgraduate studentship at LSE. This was the occasion of Anita's letter writing marathon. However, during his postgraduate studies Alan had met a large number of Americans and formed the hope that he might be able to study in the United States.

"That was by 1952. There were still no jobs but then the possibility of going to America loomed up. There were various



programmes for research students and I tried for one called the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship, awarded by a generous American foundation. They call them the Harkness Fellowships now. They are rather like Rhodes Scholarships in reverse. You are supposed to be something of an ambassador. When you are there you are supposed to interpret the British to the Americans and the Americans to the British."

Alan nearly did not get a chance to do any interpreting either way. "At first they almost rejected my application because they said travel was an important part of this. How could a blind man do it? I remember Anita and I went to see the Secretary of the London end of the whole thing. He had been rather sceptical but anyway after meeting us he was very friendly and withdrew his objection. Lady Pearson, Sir Neville Pearson's wife, got interested at this point and I think she wrote a letter backing me up. Anyway my application went forward to the Committee."

### Formidable Committee

Alan was interviewed by a formidable committee which included Lord Halifax and was under the Chairmanship of Sir Hector Hetherington, then Vice-Chancellor of Glasgow University. "It so happened that work which I wanted to do arising out of my Ph.D. thesis was on a school of political philosophy around the turn of the century and Sir Hector had been a junior member of this school. I remember him saying, 'Well, I used to think about these things, tell me about it.' So I was able to tell him and to mention his book which was written some time before the First World War.

"This work eventually materialised, ten years later, as a book called, *The Social Philosophy of English Idealism*. It was really a comparative study of that school of thought which had been very influential at the turn of the century both here and in America: Pragmatism, an American school of philosophy. Everyone knows what it is to be pragmatic, a former Prime Minister was always telling us that.

"I was lucky and got one of these fellowships. So the next step was America for a year in the first instance with a possibility of staying there for a



*Alan Milne makes extensive use of material tape-recorded by his staff.*

second. It was a marvellous climax and we were both tremendously excited."

Anita and Alan spent two years in America, at Berkeley in California and at Princeton, New Jersey. It was an interesting period to be in the United States, the time of Senator McCarthy and, in the South, desegregation in the schools. The Milnes experienced it all—they spent 3 months driving coast to coast in a 1941 Chevrolet, "A fine old car, one of the last pre-war models." They rubbed shoulders with ordinary Americans right across the continent. They talked to first generation immigrants, and stayed with a dentist turned uranium prospector. "His wife, who had a nice wit, said, 'From one drill hole to another'." Alan, who had started out expecting to like America, was tempted to stay but the terms of his fellowship were that he had to return to England for at least two years. "It was our side of the bargain to come home. I missed the cricket anyway."





*Professor Milne takes a tutorial class.*

So, in 1954, to use Alan's words, "The honeymoon was over," and he started his academic career at the very bottom. He became a temporary assistant lecturer in the Department of Politics at LSE at a salary of £450 a year, soon to be increased to £600.

Alan explained how teaching in higher education is carried out: "The method is first of all the traditional lecture and in many courses there will be two lectures a week. Normally there will be hour-long discussion classes linked to those lectures so there could be 50 people taking a lecture course, or sometimes 200, but they will be divided into tutorial classes of about six or seven. These will be taken, not by the lecturer—he may take one of them—but by more junior members of the staff. Usually a professor also runs a weekly seminar lasting a couple of hours for interested students. It would cover a range of topics which are distinct but have some sort of common focus.

"I attended one or two seminars as a junior staff member and I was allowed to give occasional lectures but at that level you were not given a course of your own.

This was all right for a start but I had the feeling that I'd like to do something I could have a bit more responsibility for. Then the job at Queen's University, Belfast appeared in 1956."

"It was advertised as a lectureship in what was called social philosophy. It also specifically said, to have responsibility for actually creating courses. I taught political philosophy, also quite a lot of moral philosophy, at Belfast I was solely responsible for courses at three levels. It was left to me to do it so it was really up to me to do the lecturing and plan the courses.

"It was very good experience and it was a bit daunting at first. You do get periods when you wonder if you have bitten off more than you can chew—or what is going to happen. The first professor I was under, who is now a professor at Cambridge, and a very good friend of mine, I often think, well, he could easily have been let down. He gave me a lot of leeway and if I had made a mess of it... He would have said he trusted me, I suppose, but I think I would feel a bit uneasy giving somebody as much rope as he gave me."



Alan Milne used his rope to such good effect that in 1973 he was appointed to a personal Chair. He became Professor of Social Philosophy. "In some ways this is sort of a plum thing because you are not lumbered with administration. You are not having to run a department but your work is regarded as sufficient calibre to deserve to be a professor."

### **Durham Opportunity**

Plum job it may be but to Alan Milne it was a plateau and he was not quite ready to stay on a plateau. "I'd gone there to start all these courses and this was a good time to move when things were going well. If this opportunity at Durham hadn't come up last year I might have stayed in Belfast until I retired, especially as I am now 54."

At Durham Alan Milne heads the Department of Politics with the title, Professor of Political Theory and Institutions. His academic field is not quite so wide as at Queen's but he has a staff of ten comprising a Reader, two Senior Lecturers, two Lecturers, near the top of the scale, and four juniors. His secretarial staff number three: His own personal assistant, "A marvellous person with a

great deal of experience in University administration, who at one time was secretary to the Vice-Chancellor and who really knows how the thing works", another secretary and a part-time typist.

He still remembers his first lecture—it was while he was in the Army, "I was paralysed. One is always scared, in the early days, that one is going to dry up and consequently one nearly always has far too much material.

### **Lecturing from Memory**

"I don't use notes as I lecture and what gave me confidence was the very first time I was going to give a paper as a student at LSE. I made Braille notes with the idea that I would refer to them but what with one thing and another I took the wrong notes in! So I just had to rely on my memory and I found it was O.K. I didn't need them.

"Although I like to give a lecture without notes there must be notes for that lecture. I must have thought it out and that means thinking it out on paper. While not having it drafted into sentences, at least I'll have it worked out on several pages of Braille and into four or five divisions, roughly ten minutes each,

*The day's work begins in the office with Mrs. Joan McQuillan, Alan's personal assistant.*





planning to make the lecture last 50 to 55 minutes. The main thing is you must have prepared it. You must go in there feeling you know exactly what you are going to say.

"There's a story of an American philosopher—it was said of his lectures that, 'First he says what he is going to say, then he says that he is going to say it, then he says it, then he says that he's said it and finally he says what he said!' I wouldn't go that far but I do think you should tell them at the beginning roughly where you are going to go and remind them where you've got to half way through and then at the end you can sum up and say where you've been.

### **Performance**

"In a way a lecture is always a bit of a performance in the sense that you are going to talk to them about something that is systematic for nearly an hour. At the same time you want to make it interesting and you want to have a little light relief. This is the challenge of a lecture. Even if you have done a particular lecture and it has gone well one year, it is like a new innings at cricket, you've got to do it again next year and it's a different group of students and you've got to prepare yourself and be in the same form for it."

### **Identifying Personalities**

The more intimate situation of class teaching poses small problems of identification for a blind professor: "I ask them to sit in a certain order, at any rate for the first three or four times, just round the table so I get a definite impression by voice and by who is sitting where. Sometimes somebody will answer and I ask that person to say who they are. Quite often students are shy and I'll say, 'Well, Miss Smith, what do you think about this?' Often they will then speak up and this is a method of identifying them. Usually after about three or four meetings they will begin to emerge as personalities and I can identify them all.

"This may vary. There may be one or two I just know as names. I know the sound of their voice and that is all. This is one of the reasons why I like to see them occasionally, once or twice a term,

with an essay. Spend a half-hour with them, read the essay and chat with them. Just to get to know them a bit more."

I wondered how students reacted to a blind teacher. "I can only say I have, had, I think, very good relations with the students on the whole. They seem to like my teaching. I am sure I could do it better and I am sure I have been more successful with some students than with others but the great secret is to like the subject you are teaching.

"Never make a fool of a student in a class. At the same time don't hesitate, if someone is simply showing off or just talking too much you must stop them because they are taking up time from other people; but try to stop them without embarrassing them.

### **People Who Are Students**

"They are very much people but they are people who are students. I'll put it this way—especially now, I am old enough to be their parent, my own children are about to go to university, but even when I started I was older because of the war. Be available to them, have them round to your house from time to time. Be friendly and have a drink with them but they are students, they don't want us around all the time. Its important not to push oneself on them outside the formal contact one has. They wouldn't want you to kind of pretend you are a student when you are not."

Alan points out that an element of detachment is necessary because the staff examine the work of the students. "Of course there is always an external examiner from another university for all degree examinations so in the actual decision about somebody failing or passing or what class they get, the external examiner has to have the last word."

I asked whether blindness creates problems in examining the work of a student: "There is the question of marking generally because students have to write essays all the time. Essay marking is straight forward. I simply get the student to come along and read his essay to me and I have a little sort of tutorial with him at the same time.

"In examining, well, you can't ask a student to read his own exam papers back





*A student, Miss Jane Grave, comes for advice on the selection of her courses for next year.*

to you. Here at Durham I have various secretaries who've been reading for me. I listen to it all the way through, of course I've probably set the questions so I would know exactly what the question was getting at and ninety per cent of the time, one reading is enough. I might want to look at some again or I might want to know what somebody else thinks. A very good paper certainly, because I would think I had better have someone check in case it might reflect a bias of mine that something is particularly important. Anything you think is potential First Class quality you get somebody else to look at.

"There's no difference here, blind or sighted, except that it takes longer having them read to you. This is one thing where you score being blind. The students are quite sure that you are impartial. I always ask everybody reading exams to me not to tell me the name of the person until I have heard the paper right through and made up my mind on the marks for each question. Then I ask who is it? I sometimes guess, but I try not to. It is only if

it forces itself on me because it is somebody whose work I have known quite well."

Professor Alan Milne looks ahead to another eleven years of academic work. Author of two books already, he has two more planned. "In university life you must publish your work. It is a good thing because I don't think you really teach a subject well unless you are trying to contribute to it at the same time. It's jolly hard work, actually, working something out which will stand up in print to the really tough criticism which your colleagues at other universities will give you.

"It took me a hell of a sweat to write my first book. One is one's own severest critic and one's wife is a very good help—a good critic of style. You must certainly write books or articles which make some sort of a name for yourself if you are going to be a professor."

I asked Alan if he was ambitious personally: "I think it would be foolish to say that one didn't like being a professor in the sense that it does mark that you



have achieved something. On the other hand, where my real ambitions lie is in making a contribution to my subject and teaching it well, professional ambitions in that sense. It is sometimes said that we don't get paid as well as other people with our qualifications but we do get much more freedom and much more interest in our lives than in other jobs.

"Teaching is important because in a way it's the whole justification for our existence, myself and other people who teach these essentially academic, not professional, subjects. There's nothing except education in it and without the teaching we would have no role. So really it is the fundamental thing and all the writing I do is related to that.

"Of course, we know the people we teach are not going to be academics. That would be silly. If we were only teaching our successors the whole thing would be pointless. It is interesting teaching people who will go into all sorts of jobs. The value in the work, I hope, is

simply exposing them to a lot of ideas, a lot of ways of thinking critically about contemporary ideas and then something about the history of ideas and knowing something about the history of thought. So that at the end of it they come out able to think more independently, more critically, having some experience of political and social argument and ethical issues. It is not for everybody to do this sort of thing but I think it is great teaching these boys and girls. It's a marvellous life."

Looking at Alan Milne against the background of the ancient cathedral city he has made his home, fitting so well the university life he has chosen and listening to his talk on his life's work, I found myself wondering what sort of professional cricketer he would have made. Not a flamboyant, chancy batsman, I think, more the tough, steady man playing second or third wicket down. The man to get his head down and hold the innings together, surviving the bumpers or the spin. The sort of man to carry his bat.

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## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**John Boffey** of Whitchurch, Salop, who joined St. Dunstan's in August. He served as a gunner in the Royal Artillery during the Second World War, and after his discharge worked in a hospital until his retirement in 1963. Mr. Boffey is a widower, but he has two sons and two daughters.

**Cuthbert Henry Emery** of Walthamstow, London E.17, who joined St. Dunstan's in July. He served as a Rifleman in the Rifle Brigade during the First World War and received shrapnel wounds in France. By trade, Mr. Emery was a tool temperer and he continued working until the age of 77. He is married and has three adult daughters.

**William Pinder** of Peterlee, Co. Durham, who joined St. Dunstan's in August. He served with the Durham Light Infantry during the First World War and was wounded at Ypres in 1915. He is married and has two step-children.

**Charles Riches** of Frimley Green, Surrey, who joined St. Dunstan's in August. He served as a Corporal with the 8th Btn. Royal Fusiliers during the First World War and was injured at Loos in 1915. Mr. Riches was formerly a Steward in a Workingmen's Club and, although now retired, continues with a considerable amount of local voluntary work with the assistance of his wife. Prior to his connection with the Workingmen's Club, Mr. Riches had his own military outfitting business. Mr. and Mrs. Riches have three adult children, one son and two daughters.

**James Taylor** of Penwortham, Preston, who joined St. Dunstan's in August. He served with the Kings Liverpool Regiment in the First World War and was wounded at Armentieres in 1917. Mr. Taylor is married and has two daughters.



**From:**

**John Sugden, Pearson House**

Some people say that prayers are in vain,  
But we have prayed and for sure it brought the  
rain,

Now if you find things start to rust,  
That is better than the Earth going to dust,  
Though the weather can be so underhand,  
It should in a dry spell turn the shingles on the  
beach into sand,

But now the ground has had some rain,  
All the plants can breathe again.

*Brenda, daughter of Harold Earnshaw, married  
Corporal Robert Bradshaw, R.A.F. Police Flight,  
on July 3rd. Brenda is a corporal in Princess  
Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.*



## CLUB NEWS

### MIDLAND

Our July meeting, held on the 11th of the month, was another quiet one, due once again to holidays, etc. Even though there may not be many members present, there always seems plenty to talk about and this meeting was no exception. The tea was arranged by Mrs. Sallie Bilcliff, another lovely home made spread. We all enjoyed it very much and thanked Sallie in our usual manner.

August 8th was the date of our next get together. This one was better, a larger attendance and more going on. The final of the Sir Arthur Pearson competition was played off between Tom O'Connor and Eddie Hordyniec. This was a real nail-biting marathon: Eddie had just returned from a holiday in Russia and, whilst studying his dominoes, he was busy puffing at Russian cigarettes which he had brought back with him but, eventually, through the clouds of smoke haze, Tom O'Connor emerged as the lucky winner. Well done, Tom.

We had thought of going to Church Stretton in August for a half day outing, but we decided at this meeting to cancel this idea and concentrate on our usual outing to Stratford, which is to be on Sunday, 3rd October.

The tea for this meeting was prepared by Mrs. Elizabeth Tomporowski, and this was another fine home made spread with

many lovely tit-bits. We all thanked her for a beautiful spread. Well done, Elizabeth.

We were all shocked to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Barbara Kibbler, the wife of our chairman, Joe Kibbler. Barbara had been attending out club meetings for many years, in fact she was at our July meeting. She was admitted to hospital on Thursday, 15th July and passed away on 22nd July. A number of members, with their wives, attended her funeral on Thursday, 29th July, and flowers were laid on behalf of the Midland club.

Barbara always enjoyed club meetings and looked forward to all of our outings. She was with us at Symonds Yat at the beginning of July and thoroughly enjoyed herself. Joe has been club chairman since we moved to our present premises, and Barbara brought him along on the bus through all kinds of weather to make sure that they should not miss a meeting. We shall all miss her very much, and we all offer Joe and his family our deepest sympathy.

We were all very pleased to see Joe at the August meeting, and are delighted that he intends to carry on as our chairman.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
Secretary



## THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during July were:

1st July	1st	W. Miller
	2nd	C. Hancock J. Majchrowicz
8th July	1st	C. Hancock
	2nd	J. Majchrowicz
15th July	1st	W. Miller
	2nd	J. Majchrowicz
29th July	1st	R. Armstrong M. Sheehan P. Nuyens

### The Mystery Outing

On Saturday, 24th July, a party of us met at Headquarters eager to know what the mystery outing contained. We boarded the coach at 4.30 p.m. and off we went, keenly following the direction the coach was taking, trying to anticipate the chosen theatre. We finally arrived at the Mermaid Theatre. The show *Some of my Best Friends are Husbands* was excellent and fully enjoyed by all, which was obvious by the bursts of laughter throughout. After the show, we proceeded to the Mermaid restaurant, where we received a warm welcome, with a very nice meal awaiting us. They had certainly done their stuff, and we were expected to do ours, which we did in a very hearty way. The meal over, we again boarded the coach, wondering what now?

We arrived at the Tower of London at the stroke of 9.30 p.m., being met by one of the escorts to the Master of the Queen's Keys, who then gave us full details of what was to happen regarding the nightly ceremony of The Queen's Keys and going into the history of the Tower, which was very interesting. At 10 p.m. the Last Post was sounded, then we all trooped back to the coach, thankful that we had not missed such an outing. Everyone agreed it had all been well planned, and the air of mystery undoubtedly added to the enjoyment. We are now eagerly looking forward to the next one.

Thank you, Paul and Roy, and not forgetting Ian for all his help.

LES DOUGLASS

## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

Our two dances held on 11th July and 14th August were again well attended and it was very nice to have our Group, The Compact 3, playing for us once again. Please note our next dance is on 9th October.

The Whist and Domino Aggregates are now coming to a close as we are nearing the end of our first year.

We spent a most enjoyable day on 1st September at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley, when 45 members sat down to an excellent meal in the restaurant after a tour of the Gardens. Several members enjoyed chatting to the gardeners, who were most helpful and gave useful hints for our own small gardens.

I would like to thank the Entertainment Committee for all their hard work and support on the Outing.

BOB OSBORNE

### BOWLING CLUB REPORT

The outdoor bowling season has come to an end, it has been a marvellous year, the weather has been perfect for bowling and St. Dunstons bowling club has had a very full and active year. We have attended 16 away matches, which have taken us into 3 counties. We have also maintained our bowling every week at St. Anne's Gardens where we have run a competition every week, the prizes for this will be awarded at the Christmas Dance.

We are looking forward to our indoor session at the King Alfred, and Ian Fraser House where we hope to entertain some of the clubs we have visited in the summer.

My thanks to all the committee members wives and voluntary helpers, for their support throughout the outdoor season.

TED FREARSON  
Chairman and Captain

### Dominoes Aggregate, August 1976

1st	H. Preedy W. Burnett C. Walters Mrs. J. Walsh
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The Aggregate score for September will finish this competition. Results will be put on the notice board and prizes given at the Christmas dance with other competition prizes.



## Whist Aggregate Scores

11th August, 1976

### Ladies

- 1st Mrs. B. Griffiths
- 2nd Mrs. M. Crabtree
- 3rd Mrs. P. Lethbridge

### Gentlemen

- 1st W. Burnett
- 2nd P. McCormack

\*Mrs. E. M. Dodgson

\*Not a misprint, shortage of men players.

11th September, 1976

### Ladies

- 1st Mrs. P. Lethbridge
- 2nd Mrs. J. Aldridge
- 3rd Mrs. H. Webster  
Mrs. B. Griffiths

### Gentlemen

- 1st R. Bickley
- 2nd H. Preedy  
A. Smith
- 3rd W. Holmes

## BRIDGE SECTION

Our seventh pairs match was held on Saturday, 17th July. The winners were:

### North-South

- Miss B. Simon and  
Miss Sturdy 92

### East-West

- J. Padley and Mrs. Green 103

A match against a team of eight from Whiteways Bridge Club on 25th July resulted in a win for St. Dunstan's.

Our Summer Drive was held on 1st August. There was a good turnout, eight tables in all. Thanks to Matron Blackford for kindly presenting the prizes and thanks once again to Bob Goodlad for all his help. Our prize winners were:

- 1st M. Tybinski and Mr. Palmer
- 2nd J. Padley and Mrs. Padley
- 3rd A. Smith and Mrs. Smith

On 7th August we held our sixth Brighton individual, with the following results:

- M. Tybinski and W. Lethbridge 66
- J. Padley and C. Walters 66
- P. McCormack and A. Smith 65
- R. Fullard and Miss B. Simon 64
- W. Phillips and W. Burnett 59
- F. Griffiee and W. Scott 58

The winners of our eighth pairs match, on 22nd August, were:

### North-South

- Miss B. Simon and  
Miss Sturdy 129

### East-West

- R. Fullard and  
Mrs. McPherson 129

WALTER LETHBRIDGE

## FISHING SECTION

On Friday, 20th August, members aboard "Pisces" had a most successful day. Catches included some fine pollack 6-8 lbs. using Red Gill lures.

On Friday, 3rd September, aboard "My May", the weather was fine but catches were small consisting mainly of dabs. The Club Trophy awarded to the member who catches the "Heaviest Fish" has been purchased and will be presented to the winner at the Club Christmas Dance.

## From: George Fallowfield, Worthing, Sussex

When we were at Tahiti, my wife said to me "There's two men over there been fishing and they are both carrying the fish home". "Suppose they are," I said without much interest and, seeing I had misunderstood her, she added "They are both carrying the same fish." "Blimey!" I exclaimed, waking up, "How big is it?", and a man standing near us, hearing the question, said "Ten to twelve feet long." And so I read our reports on the Fishing Club with much interest, as I thought anglers were good at telling stories about the fish they have caught and I noticed one bloke caught a fish weighing 15 lbs. and think our anglers might also have some of their trophies stuffed and put into glass cases, and hung round the lounge at Ovingdean so visitors could see the results of their labours.

## Fishing: October 23rd to 26th

Would all those St. Dunstaners who booked at the beginning of this year for this session, please confirm their intention to attend not later than October 10th.

JOCK CARNOCHAN



# FAMILY NEWS

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## Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Chadwick* of Fareham, are pleased to announce that his daughter, Lilian, was married to Peter Anthony Hill on 10th July at Standish, Lancashire.

*Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fulling* of Sheffield, are pleased to announce that their son, Stuart, was married on 7th August to Sally Fell at St. John's Church, Ranmoor, Sheffield.

*Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hedges* of Bexley, Kent, are pleased to announce that their son, Anthony John, was married to Helen Annetts on 31st July, at the Village Church, Swanley, Kent.

*Mr. Raymond Sandiford* of Bolton, is pleased to announce that his daughter, Anne, was married to Gareth Catterson on 26th June.

Mrs. Evelyn Shirlaw, widow of our St. Dunstaner *John Shirlaw*, is pleased to announce the marriage of her daughter, Anne, to Andrew Adam on 10th July at Canterbury.

*Mr. and Mrs. Raymond John Vowles* of Portsmouth, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Julie, was married to Geoffrey Rich on 4th September, in the Church of St. Nicholas, Portsmouth.

*Mr. Christopher Charles Williams*, of Beckenham, is pleased to announce the marriage of his son, Adrian, to Pamela Ann Mead on 11th September, at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Christchurch.

## Silver Weddings

### Congratulations to:

*Mrs. Brenda Bates* and her husband, Dennis, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 28th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Frith* of High Wycombe, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 28th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Gallagher* of Blackpool, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 25th August.

## Ruby Weddings

### Many congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. James Cooper* of Southsea, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 12th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Howard* of Worthing, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 2nd July.

*Mr. and Mrs. Alan Hold* of Yeovil, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 29th August.

*Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Parish* of Littlehampton, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 10th October.

*Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Petherick* of Keighley, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 14th August.

## Golden Weddings

### We warmly congratulate:

*Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Livermore* of Surbiton, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 20th August.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harry Patience*, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 24th May.

## Grandchildren

### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Butler* of Southampton, on the birth of their second grandchild on 15th June, a son, Paul Anthony Butler for their son and daughter-in-law, John and Rosemary.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Cattell* of Althorpe, Northampton, on the birth of their first grandchild, a girl, Hayley Jane, born on 20th July to their daughter Lesley and her husband Philip Purser.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Cowan* of Boreham Wood, on the birth of their grandson, Andrew Nathan, to their daughter Linda and son-in-law Dennis on 24th July.



*Mrs. Vi Delaney* of Liverpool, on the birth of a great-niece, Porsha Lee, born on 12th July in Vancouver, Canada, to Mrs. Gauthier, daughter of the late *Edward Ward*.

*Mr. and Mrs. Alan Hold* on the birth of their seventh grandchild, a daughter for his eldest son.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Loach* of Dudley, West Midlands, on the birth of their third grandchild, Paul, on 5th February 1976, to their son Robert and his wife.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Muir* of Blackpool on the birth of their second grandchild, Gavin Peter, born on 17th February to their son Robert and daughter-in-law Janette.

*Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Nabney* of Belfast, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Dawn, born on the 30th July to their daughter Marjorie and her husband Andrew. Although the baby was born prematurely, she is making excellent progress.

*Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Sheehan* of Wanstead, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Kerry Ann, born on 15th August in Malta to their son, Kevin, and daughter-in-law Susan.

*Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Smith* of Shefford, on the birth of their first grandchild, Helen Dawn, born on 16th July to their daughter Catherine and her husband John.

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert Springell* of Castleford, Yorkshire, on the birth of their first grandchild, James Springell, on 2nd April.

*Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Waters* of East Bergholt, on the birth of a grandson, Simon Paul, born on 16th July to their son Paul and daughter-in-law Patsy.

## Great Grandchildren

### We warmly congratulate:

*Mr. Cecil Headland* on the birth of his second great grandchild, Tracey Ann. She was born on 14th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cox* of Egham, on the birth of their first great grandchild

born on 16th June, a son, Wayne Barry, for their eldest grand-daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Irvine.

*Mr. Arthur Rowe* of Newcastle, on the birth of a great-grandson, Andrew Paul Walters, born on 9th April to one of his grand-daughters.

## EXAMINATION AND CAREER SUCCESSES

### We warmly congratulate:

Paul Allen, son of our St. Dunstaner *William Allen* of Farnborough, who has graduated from Oxford with a First Class Honours degree in Jurisprudence. He goes to Guildford Law School next, and hopes to go to Harvard later on.

David Bagwell, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bagwell* of Salisbury, who has just obtained an Upper Second B.Sc. in Electronics.

Philip Booth, son of Mrs. Peggy Booth and the late *Mr. Peter Booth* of Somerton, who has passed five "O" levels.

Michael Donald, 18-year old son of *Mr. and Mrs. Roman Donald* of Hove, who has signed a contract with Sussex County Cricket Club as a second eleven player. Michael will be going to university in the Autumn of 1977.

Linda Filby, daughter of Mrs. Lily Filby and the late *Mr. William Filby* of London S.W.16, who has passed with Honours her Gold S.T.A. for swimming.

Brian Jones, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Jones* of Manchester, who has obtained an Upper Second B.Sc. in Physics from Guildford University. Brian is now working with Plessey's in Havant as an assistant engineer in the Radar Research Department.

*Edward Jinks* of Oldham, who won four Silver Medals for running at Kirkby, Liverpool, from B.S.A.D. when representing the Morecambe and Lancaster Disabled Club.

Christopher Mortimer, son of *Mr. and Mrs. George Mortimer* of Home, who has just got his B.Sc. (Econ.) at London University. He achieved an Upper Second Honours degree.



## Examination and Career Successes *Continued*

Helen Slater, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Slater* of Canvey Island, who has obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in art.

Helen Tatchell, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Tatchell* of Cardiff, who has obtained a Certificate of Education from the Didsbury Training College, where she attended a Post Graduate Course. Helen hopes to take up a teaching post in Manchester.

## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Mr. George Burnett* of Stevenage, whose wife, Florence, died on 25th August.

*Mr. Leonard Ellaway* of Trelleck, whose wife, Theresa, died on 7th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Faulkner* of Northwick, on the recent death of Mr. Faulkner's eldest brother.

*Mr. Tim Gaiger* of Devizes, on the death of his sister, Miss N. Gaiger, on 21st July. Miss Gaiger lived with and devotedly cared for our St. Dunstaner since the death of his wife in 1971.

*Miss Una Greenwood* of Manchester, whose father died on 7th August.

*Mr. Frank James* of Hove, whose wife, Winifred Sarah, died on 9th August after a long illness.

*Mr. Levi Kibbler* of Warley, whose wife, Barbara, died on 22nd July.

*Mr. Edward Mercer* of Blackpool, whose wife, Emily, died on 5th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harry Patience* of Crawley Down, on the recent deaths of her mother and his sister-in-law.

*Mr. Thomas Rosewarne* of Manchester, on the recent deaths of two of his brothers.

*Mr. John Spence* of Ballycastle, whose mother died during July.

## In Memory—

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

**Marc Harry Albertella.** *Royal Fusiliers 4th Regiment*

Marc Harry Albertella died on 5th August, at the age of 80.

He enlisted as a Regular soldier in 1914, and was seriously injured at Ypres in 1915. In civilian life, he had been in the leather trade, so on admission to St. Dunstan's in 1919 he undertook training in boot repairing and, subsequently, mat making. Mr. Albertella had his own workshop, which he operated efficiently for many years until he was forced to retire owing to deteriorating health. He then continued to work for our Stores and, with his usual high standard of competence, supplied them with a quota of string bags.

For four years prior to Mr. Albertella's admission to Pearson House as a permanent resident early this year, he was cared for devotedly by Miss Eileen Haslett of Hove.

Despite many handicaps, our St. Dunstaner retained his interests in talking books, gardening and travel and his cheerful disposition will long be remembered by the Matrons and staff of our Brighton Homes where he was a frequent and welcome visitor.

Mr. Albertella leaves two sons, a daughter and a stepson and their families.

**Peter Booth.** *Welsh Regiment*

Peter Booth of Somerton, Somerset, died on 21st August at the age of 44.

He served as a Private in the Welsh Regiment from 1950 until 1953 and was severely wounded in the head whilst on service in Korea. Mr. Booth was a prisoner-of-war in North Korea and was admitted directly to a military hospital on returning to the U.K.

After a period of training on admission to St. Dunstan's, Mr. Booth commenced employment in industry, but was forced to retire after a short while for health reasons. Our St. Dunstaner then successfully operated a smallholding for a number of years and enjoyed his hobby of gardening and his greenhouse, despite many health problems.

Mr. Booth was a Somerset man and, prior to enlistment, had been a cider blender.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Peggy Booth, and two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Booth's sister, Beryl, is married to our St. Dunstaner John Whitcombe.



**Albert George Briggs. *Labour Corps***

Albert George Briggs died at Pearson House on 4th August, at the age of 81.

Mr. Briggs served as a private with the Labour Corps from December, 1915 until October, 1917.

Before enlistment, he had worked as a shoemaker and after coming to St. Dunstan's in February, 1925, he was given training in shoe repairing as well as being taught mat-making. In 1926, he opened a shop in which he carried out both crafts for 21 years and even when he disposed of his business, he continued with private shoe repairs for a while and took up rug-making as a hobby occupation.

His wife, Mrs. Ada Briggs, died in 1973 and he was then cared for by his youngest son, Donald, and his family until, in the summer of 1975, he came to us at Pearson House. He also leaves other members of his family.

**Robert Britton. *Royal Air Force***

Robert Britton of Blackburn, died on 7th August at the age of 71.

He served with the Royal Air Force as a Leading Aircraftsman from May 1941 to October 1944, when he was invalided out and came to St. Dunstan's in November that year. As Mr. Britton had been a shopkeeper prior to his enlistment, he chose this occupation when he went to Ovingdean for retraining. With the help and support of his wife, he successfully ran a sweet shop in Blackburn for many years and then, in 1966, he switched to selling greengrocery and flowers. In spite of the fact that he suffered from arthritis, Mr. Britton remained actively engaged in his business up to the time of his death.

He found much pleasure and relaxation in playing dominoes and was a popular participant in this game at his local Beehive Hotel.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lily Britton, and a daughter, Marian.

**Sidney Gobourn. *5th Cameron Highlanders***

Sidney Gobourn of Cheltenham, died on 20th August at the age of 79.

He served with the 5th Cameron Highlanders during the First World War from October 1915 until August 1917. He was wounded at Arras in July that year and came straight to St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Gobourn trained as a physiotherapist and held a hospital appointment for some years, later developing a successful private practice, until 1965 when he retired at the age of 69. Even so, he continued to see a small number of private patients up until the death of his wife in January this year and the onset of his own illness.

During all the years he lived in Cheltenham, Mr. Gobourn was actively involved in local affairs and also served as a Warden at his Presbyterian Church.

He leaves two sons, Peter and David, and their families.

**Ernest M. Goundrill. *Northumberland Fusiliers***

Ernest M. Goundrill of Hull, died on 13th July at the age of 87.

Although he served as a Lance Corporal in the Northumberland Fusiliers from July 1909 until September 1918, and was an Old Contemptible, it was not until 1940 that Mr. Goundrill became a St. Dunstaner and then, at the age of 43, he was trained in joinery work. His carpentry was always of a high standard and it gave him a happy occupation from which he derived much fulfilment to the end of his days.

Mr. Goundrill served as President of his local branch of the Royal British Legion and, when he resigned from this post in 1972, he was awarded an Honorary Life Membership Certificate for Meritorious Service. He enjoyed many holidays at Brighton over the years, and we always looked forward to seeing him there in the late spring and early autumn of each year.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ella Goundrill, who has herself had to overcome the disabilities of blindness and arthritis, and a married son, Peter.

**William F. Halls. *Labour Corps***

William F. Halls of Colchester, died on 7th July at the age of 84, while he was staying at Pearson House for convalescence.

Mr. Halls enlisted with the Labour Corps in 1909 and served with them during the First World War. He suffered a gunshot wound in 1914, which damaged his eyesight, and was discharged from the army in 1919.

He was employed as a Male Nurse for some years, retiring from this in 1952 at the age of 60. During his years of retirement, when he lived with very good friends, Mrs. Denny and her daughter Audrey, he enjoyed devoting a good deal of time to his garden and he frequently had holidays with us at Ian Fraser House.

He became a St. Dunstaner in 1953.

**Richard Hobbs. *King's Liverpool Regiment***

Richard Hobbs of Midsomer Norton, died on 25th July at the age of 90.

Mr. Hobbs served in the First World War, when his eyesight was affected by mustard gas.

He was a baker by trade and was able to continue working until 1933, when his slight remaining sight began to fail and he was forced to retire. Over the years, his health slowly deteriorated and, just over a year ago, it was necessary for him to enter a nursing home permanently.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Elsie Eliza Hobbs. Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs would have celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on 28th December next.



# In Memory *continued*

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## **Edwin Read.** *15th Worcesters*

Edwin "Bob" Read died in Sussex County Hospital on 4th August at the age of 76.

Mr. Read had been a furnaceman in civilian life, prior to enlistment as a Private with the 15th Worcesters. He was discharged in 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's the following year. After admission, he undertook a period of training in clog making and boot repairing. He opened his own shop, which he extended to incorporate the sale of confectionery and tobacco. He continued in business in the Birmingham area until failing health forced him to cease trading, and he moved to the Brighton area.

From then on, Mr. Read's health unfortunately deteriorated and he was a frequent visitor to our Homes in Brighton, finally being admitted to Pearson House as a permanent resident in 1974.

Mr. Read, who was a bachelor, leaves a niece, Mrs. King of Warley, and other relatives in the Birmingham area.

## **Rupert Seymour.** *4th East Yorks*

Rupert Seymour died at Pearson House on 19th July, at the age of 81.

Mr. Seymour served as a private with the 4th East Yorks from June, 1915 until May, 1917. After coming to St. Dunstan's in 1935 he trained as a mat-maker and worked in this capacity for our Stores Department for some 14 years before giving it up to concentrate upon poultry-keeping and greenhouse work, which he took up shortly after the last War. He very much enjoyed his work on his holding but, following the death of his wife in 1957, our St. Dunstaner gave up his own home and lived with his daughter for a while before coming to us as a permanent resident at Pearson House in 1960.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Hilda Fearnley and her family, with whom he took pleasure in spending holidays in Barnoldswick and, when travelling became difficult for him because of ill health, his daughter became a frequent visitor to him in Brighton.

## **Joseph Swales, M.B.E., M.C.** *4th Tank Corps*

Joseph ("Joe") Swales, of Saltburn-by-Sea, Cleveland, died on the 31st August, 1976, at the age of 84.

He enlisted and was commissioned in the 4th Tank Corps; he was blinded in 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1919. After training, he returned to his former work as a railway accountant with the North Eastern Railway and remained

with the railways in very responsible posts until his retirement in 1956. Very soon after the First World War he became interested in local affairs, especially blind welfare, and played a wonderfully successful leading role in administration, fund-raising and every aspect of public service in his district of Yorkshire right up to the time of his death. He was awarded the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List in 1955.

He was a widower, his wife having died in 1963 after a long illness. In recent years he was a regular visitor to Ovingdean and had had a holiday at Ian Fraser House in July. When St. Dunstan's celebrated Lord Fraser's Golden Jubilee as Chairman, Joe Swales made the presentation of gifts to him and Lady Fraser on behalf of all St. Dunstaners. Now his many friends have been deeply shocked to learn that he was severely burned in an accident at his home on the 29th August and died two days later in hospital.

He leaves two married sons and grandchildren.

## **Eli Wild.** *Royal Army Service Corps*

Eli Wild of Rochdale, died on 18th August, at the age of 62.

He served as a driver with the Royal Army Service Corps from October 1939 until December 1940 when he was invalided out. After coming to St. Dunstan's in October 1955 and receiving training, he was in business for a few years, and then in 1970 Mr. Wild became the Treasurer and Organiser of the Rochdale Blind Association, having been an active member of that organisation for some years, and he held this appointment up to the time of his death.

Mr. Wild endured a prolonged illness with great courage and, just a few weeks prior to his death, he was very proud to tell us that his daughter, Cathryn, had obtained a Law Degree from Bristol University.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Wild, and one daughter.

## **William Joseph Woodall.** *Royal Engineers*

William Joseph Woodall of Edgbaston, Birmingham, died on 24th August at the age of 64.

He served with the Royal Engineers as a Sapper from May 1940 until he was wounded in February 1941. He came to St. Dunstan's in May 1955 and commenced industrial training at Ovingdean in June 1955. He worked in industry until his retirement in 1961, due to ill health.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doreen Woodall, and their children.





Blinded in the Battle of the Somme  
in 1916, for half a century he served  
his country in both Houses of Parli-  
ament, championed the cause of  
ex-service men and women and  
inspired the blind of many nations  
by his leadership as Chairman of  
St. Dunstan's

**St Dunstons Review November**

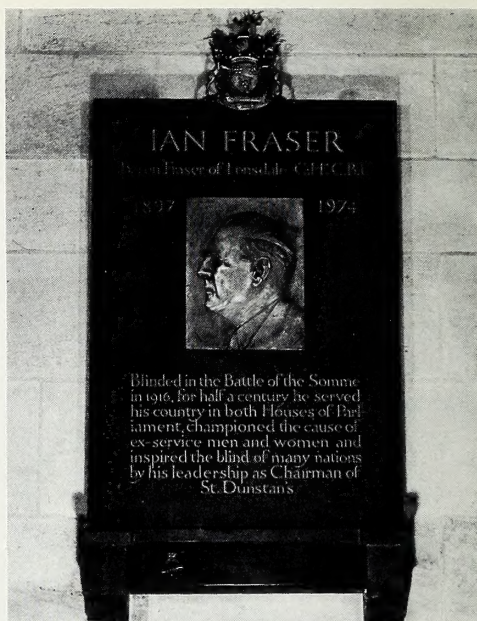


# ST DUNSTANS REVIEW

NOVEMBER 1976

No. 679

10p MONTHLY



*The Memorial to Lord Fraser in Westminster Abbey.*

## Message from the Chairman:

In the pages of this Review you will find a description and photographs of our Memorial to Lord Fraser and of the Service of unveiling and dedication held on the 14th October.

The tablet was unveiled by Neil McDonald, Lord Fraser's grandson, and St. Dunstaner Tommy Gaygan jointly. At this simple and very moving ceremony in the historic setting of the Cloisters of Westminster Abbey, Lord Fraser's own family and his blind family were united by the presence of Lady Fraser.

Now our Memorial is in place for our friends to-day and for future generations of blind and sighted from all over the world to touch and view. May its beauty and detail state for all time our gratitude for the life of Ian Fraser.

Jon Barnett-Dune

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COVER PICTURE: Vi Delaney reading the Braille inscription after the unveiling.

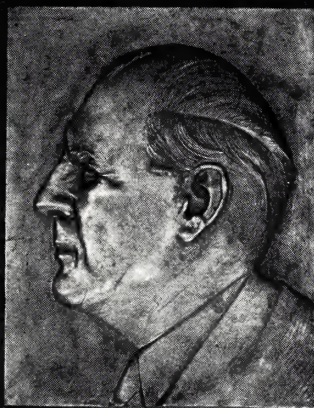




# IAN FRASER

Baron Fraser of Lonsdale C.H.:C.B.E

1897



1974

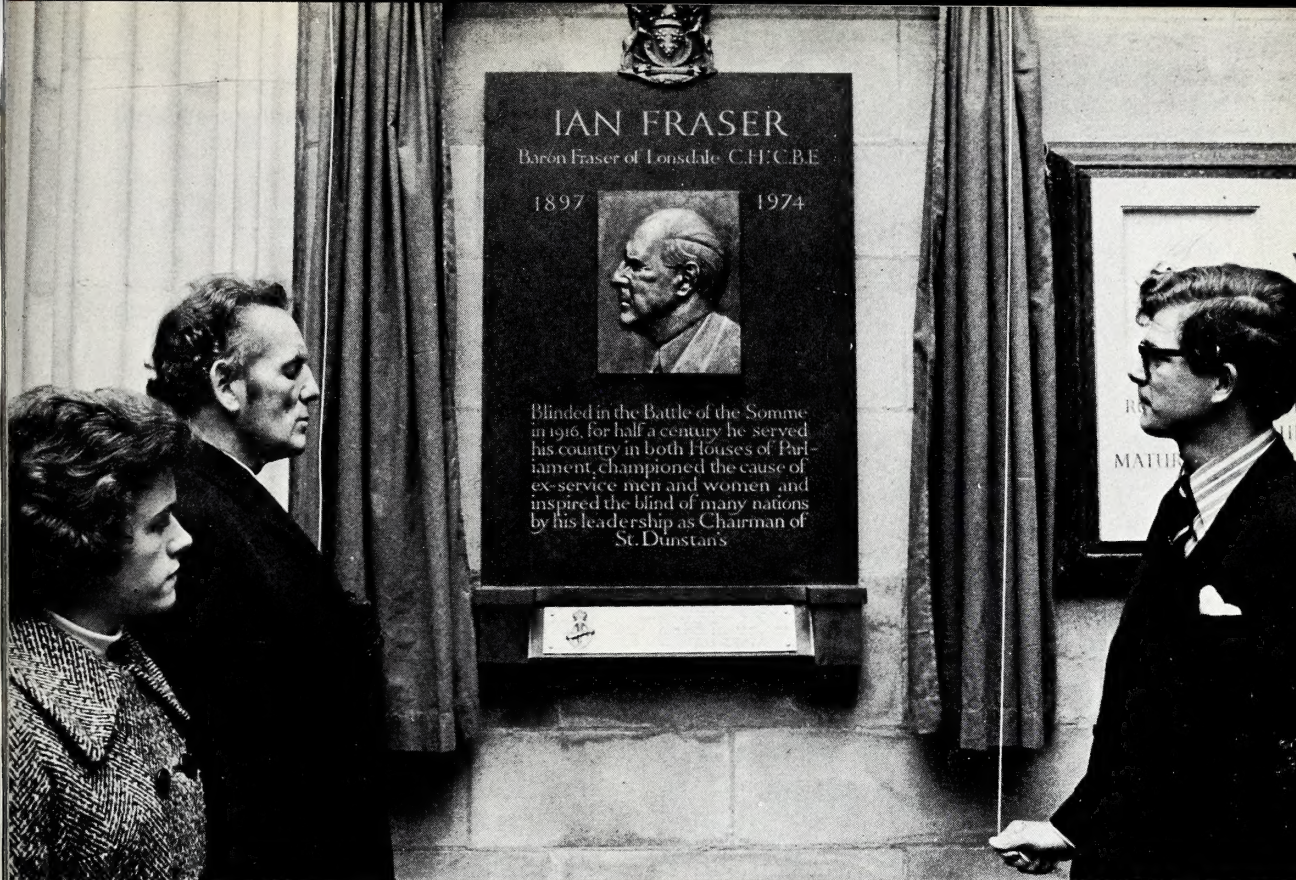
Blinded in the Battle of the Somme  
in 1916, for half a century he served  
his country in both Houses of Par-  
liament, championed the cause of  
ex-service men and women and  
inspired the blind of many nations  
by his leadership as Chairman of  
St. Dunstan's











*Neil McDonald (right) and Tommy Gaygan unveil the Memorial. With Tommy is his daughter, Mary.*

## A Unique Memorial Dedication at Westminster Abbey

A Memorial to Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, which was erected by donations from St. Dunstaners both here and in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa, together with Lord Fraser's family and friends, was unveiled in the Cloisters at Westminster Abbey on the 14th October.

The sculptor was David McFall, R.A., who recently completed a portrait bust of H.R.H. Prince Charles. His design of an inscribed plaque of Brathay Blue Coniston slate, with a profile portrait cast in bronze and bearing at the top a beautiful and intricate copy in bronze of Lord Fraser's Arms, is an impressive addition to the memorials in the Abbey.

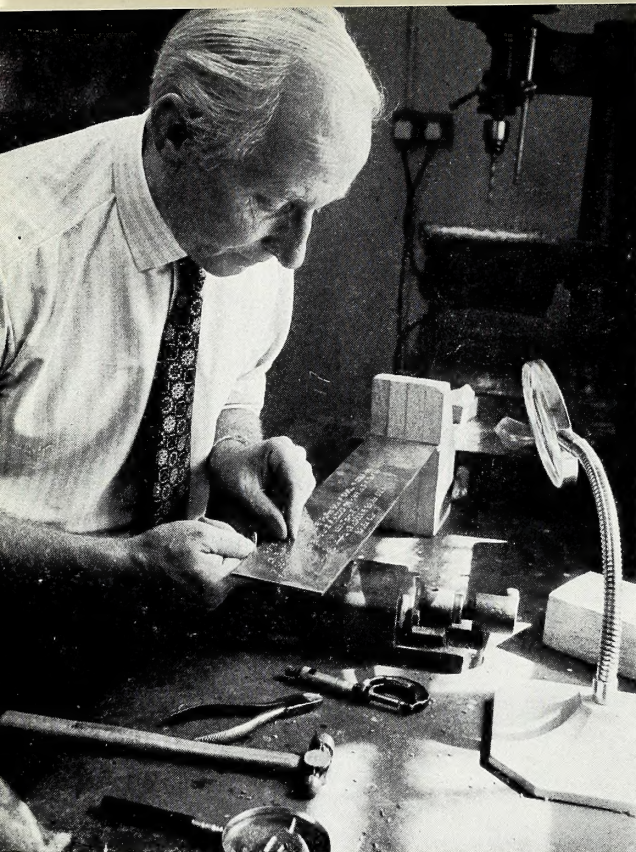
The memorial is unique in that, for the first time in its 900 years' history, the Abbey now has an inscription in Braille.

At the foot of the plaque, inclined at an angle of 45 degrees and placed at a convenient height for reading by touch, is a metal plate bearing St. Dunstan's badge wrought in bronze by David McFall and a word-for-word Braille translation of the inscription.

### Braille Rivets

Norman French, St. Dunstan's Research Engineer, is responsible for the Braille. It took some 16 hours' concentrated work to drill and rivet each Braille dot in the form of phosphor-bronze rivets whose heads are only fifty-seven thousandths of an inch across by twenty thousandths of an inch high. The tiny rivets were made by John Brown in the workshops at Ian Fraser House.





*In his workshop Norman French prepares the Braille inscription.*

*The act of dedication.*



The inscription, impeccably carved into the tablet by David McFall, reads :

#### IAN FRASER

Baron Fraser of Lonsdale C.H. C.B.E.  
1897-1974

Blinded in the Battle of the Somme in 1916, for half a century he served his country in both Houses of Parliament championed the cause of ex-servicemen and women and inspired the blind of many nations by his leadership as Chairman of St. Dunstan's.

The blue-grey Coniston slate is seen to advantage against the background of the sand coloured cloister wall, while the bronze elements of the design give contrast. The choice of the Brathay Blue stone is appropriate as it is quarried in Lord Fraser's old Parliamentary constituency.

#### The Service

By 11.30 a gathering of nearly 150 people congregated in the West Cloister for the service of unveiling and dedication. They were welcomed by the Very Reverend the Dean of Westminster, Dr. Edward Carpenter, M.A., Ph.D., and the service began with a reading from Ecclesiasticus XLIV 1-15, the famous verses that begin, "Let us now praise famous men" and conclude, "Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will show forth their praise".

Then St. Dunstan's Chairman Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme said, "I invite you Neil McDonald and you Tommy Gaygan to unveil this memorial to Lord Fraser", and the blue curtains covering the memorial were drawn aside by Lord Fraser's grandson, representing his family, and by our doubly handicapped St. Dunstaner of the Second World War, representing war-blinded men and women all over the world.

Mr. Garnett-Orme then formally asked the Dean to dedicate the memorial in these terms: "Mr. Dean, I ask you to take this memorial into the safe custody of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and to dedicate it".

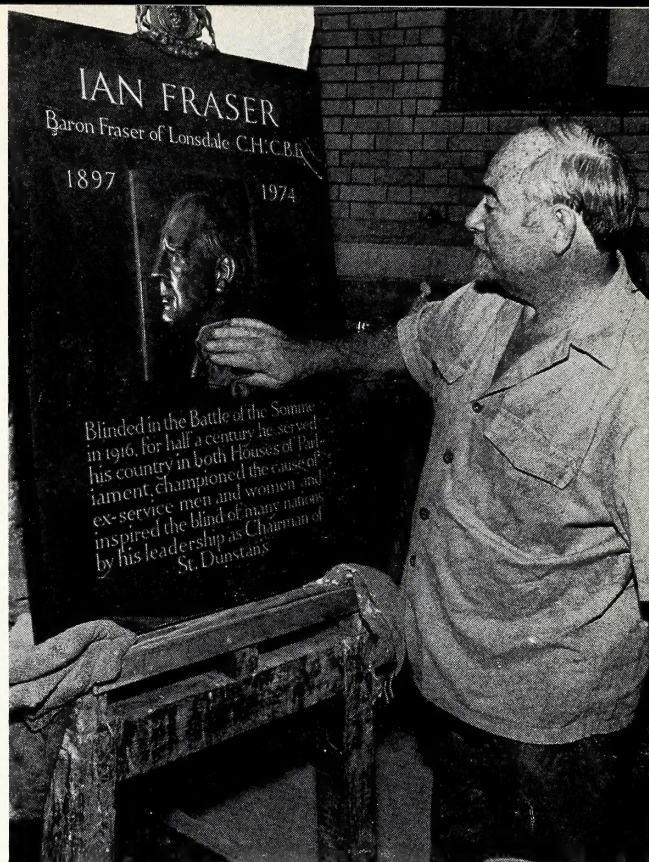


The Dean then spoke the words of dedication: "I receive this memorial into the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster: and to the greater glory of God and in thankful memory of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale I dedicate it in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen".

Prayers were said by The Reverend Neil Collings, Chaplain of Westminster Abbey, and by St. Dunstan's Chaplain, The Reverend William Popham Hosford, O.B.E.

The simple and informal service concluded with the singing of the Twenty-third Psalm "The Lord's my Shepherd", to the tune Crimond. Finally the company passed by the memorial giving St. Dunstaners and sighted the opportunity to touch and see this memorial conceived with these two senses in mind.

Lady Fraser and the nearest members of her family were among the congregation which included members of the council, representative St. Dunstaners from all over the country with their wives and long-serving members of the staff from Headquarters and Brighton. David McFall and guests from Westminster Abbey came to lunch with St. Dunstaners at Headquarters after the ceremony.



David McFall.

St. Dunstaners and escorts waiting to view the Memorial.





## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Ernest Acomb** of York, who joined St. Dunstan's in September. He served as a sapper with the Royal Engineers (Signals) during the First World War. Our St. Dunstaner is a widower.

**James Bates** of Telford, Shropshire, who joined St. Dunstan's in September. He served as a private in the King's Shropshire Light Infantry during the First World War and after his discharge worked for Sankey's until his retirement in 1964. Mr. Bates is married and has six grown up children.

**William Arthur Bradley** of St. Leonards-on-Sea, who joined St. Dunstan's in September. He served and was commissioned in the Border Regiment in the First World War, was employed as a plantation manager abroad for many years, and served again with his Regiment throughout the Second World War. He is a single man.

**John Thomas Cope** of Bilston, Staffordshire, who came to St. Dunstan's in October. He served as a private in the R.A.F. during the First World War. Mr. Cope is married with a large family.

**Squadron Leader Ralph Herbert Finch** of Banbury, who joined St. Dunstan's in September. He served in the Second World War in the R.A.F.V.R. and was a Barrister and Solicitor, but is now retired. He is married with a grown up family.

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For the second year running George Grainger, our St. Dunstaner who lives in Berriedale, Tasmania, has won a prize in a literary contest run by the Royal Blind Society of New South Wales. His short story entry, *One and One Makes Four*, won second prize, and will be taped for the Australian Talking Book Service.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From: Fred Harris, Colchester, Essex**

Referring to the article on ghosts in the *October Review*, I was not the least surprised at the remarks made by George Fallowfield. As he apparently has never had any experience of coming into contact with a ghost in any way, he naturally, like all the other people who have never had any such experience, simply says it is just imagination or something someone has written up, and there is no truth in any of these things. When I was at Ian Fraser House, an outside lady escort said to me "I read that article of yours on ghosts, but I do not believe a word of it, for there are no such things as ghosts". I simply smiled and said "Well, I do not expect you to believe if you have never had any personal experience of these things, but those of us who have had personal experiences of these phenomena know that such things do occur and we cannot explain how or why".

**From: George Fallowfield, Worthing Sussex**

This really has been a glorious summer and I have spent most of the daytime on the beach, and it's surprising the people one does get into conversation with. We met a couple one day from Brighton, Victoria, Australia, so had a fine chat, and I am reminded that, in 1932, I went to West House travelling from Victoria alone, managed to get the bus and the conductor stopped it right outside and took me to the steps. When I got to the top, Sister Davies, as she was then, was standing on the doormat. "You are warm", she said, "So would you be if you were me", I said. "We were held up crossing London, so I had to run for the train, but a porter saw us and flung open the door of the last compartment and I jumped in, but that compartment had no floor—so I went down to the sleepers and the door slammed. The train started and, as it gathered speed, I had to start running—and, without realising what I was doing, I have run all the way from London to Brighton!" "You will need a cup of tea now", said Sister Davies, and took me into the dining-room for it



# STAFF RETIREMENTS

## Mr. G. P. Owens

Pat Owens took over the placement of St. Dunstaners in full employment in April 1947. When announcing the appointment in the *Review* at that time, Lord Fraser said of him:

"He is an extremely capable man, and being a St. Dunstaner himself with the additional handicap of an artificial leg, he should understand our men's problems better than others."

How right he was, no one could have had more understanding of the needs of our men working in Industry and Commerce, and have done more to keep them in their jobs through the many difficult periods experienced during the past three decades. Moreover, his warm-hearted man-to-man approach provided comfort and inspiration to many a St. Dunstaner beginning to despair of his prospects of the future.

Pat Owens was born in Dover, went to school in Warwick and joined the Army as a boy soldier, becoming a Sapper in the Royal Engineers where he rose to the rank of Sergeant. After completing his period of service, he joined the Police Force in Dover and attended the Hendon Staff College but when war broke out he returned to the Army, and soon reached the rank of R.S.M. and gained a com-

mission. Landing on D Day with twelve corps, he went right through to Germany but was blown up by an anti-personnel mine in 1945 when surveying a mine field. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre with Silver Star. After a long period of hospitalisation, he trained at Church Stretton before taking his post as Industrial Director on our staff.

Pat and his wife have one son and two grandchildren. They hope to settle on the Hampshire coast and grow roses.

A personal tribute from the Chairman will be published in next month's *Review*.

## Miss Dorothy Hawkes

After 21 years service Miss Hawkes finally retired on the 30th September. She joined the staff in August 1955 as Secretary to the Men's Supplies Officer and in 1972 she became Secretary to the Pensions Officer, which positions she filled most competently. In both these posts she dealt personally with St. Dunstaners and their wives giving them willing help and expert advice, and many came to know her well. Dolly, as she is affectionately called by her friends, will shortly be moving to Berkshire, and we wish her the best of health and happiness in her retirement.

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## SPORTS EVENTS

The date of our Winter Indoor Sports weekend will be 20th/21st November.

St. Dunstan's second Indoor Bowls Championships will take place from Monday, 29th November until Friday, 3rd December. All applications for entry should be sent to me, please, by 15th November.

JOCK CARNOCHAN

## WINNING ARCHER

The winner of the archery for the blind contest at the British Sports Association for the Disabled's National Games at Stoke Mandeville in September was a St. Dunstaner, Norman Perry, of Grimsby.

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## MATRON—IAN FRASER HOUSE

Following her acceptance of the above appointment, Mrs. Dunk unexpectedly received an offer of marriage from an old friend which she decided to accept, and she accordingly withdrew from the appointment.

We are most grateful to Matron Blackford who has kindly consented to carry on until another appointment can be made, although to do so has resulted in considerable disruption of her own arrangements.

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## MESSAGE FROM MRS. SPURWAY

Will the chap who left his dark glasses behind at Camp kindly get in touch with Mrs. Spurway.



# OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Hold on to your hats, folks—that big wind surely is blowing around the House, and that big blow from the Escort Office is getting up steam to tell you about the September happenings.

We report that September was a happy month here; the poet who wrote of Autumn—"Melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year", was obviously a depressive. We have enjoyed the Deaf Reunion, the Radio Ham weekend, the Handless Reunion, and several varied entertainments in the House. Another cheerful event was the marriage in Macclesfield of our St. Dunstaner Margaret Stanway to John Bingham. Margaret and John visited Ovingdean immediately prior to their wedding, so we felt involved in the happy excitement. We all send them our warm good wishes for a long and happy future.

## Charles du Verne

Another great pleasure was the forging of a new friendship. It was made with Mr. Charles du Verne, and in the space of minutes he was less formally known to us as "Charlie". He is an absolute wizard on the piano, playing all types of music equally well. He even had a touch of the Errol Garner's (without the grunts), and quite dazzled us with his virtuosity. His piano-playing wasn't bad either.

## Deaf Reunion

The Deaf Reunion was a most friendly and companionable affair—and it gave the "muffies" a great deal of pleasure to have Miss Rogers and Miss Carlton as their guests at the opening dinner. A full account of the reunion will be found elsewhere in this issue.

One Tuesday evening, Miss Susan Kelk, the daughter of our late St. Dunstaner Charlie Kelk, came to sing for us, bringing her mother and her friend, Miss Barbara Allen who accompanied her on the piano. Susan looked delightful in a full-length, Victorian-style dress which complemented her lovely long red-gold hair. Barbara made a pleasing

contrast in a dress of navy blue and vivid pink, her short dark hair framing a face full of animation. We thoroughly enjoyed the evening—apart from Susan, we had solos from Mrs. Kelk, Gwen Obern and Freddie Harriss. Andy Black splendidly rendered Scottish songs in full regalia of kilt, sporran etc. (we're not sure what was included in the "etc."), and we Kept Right On to the End of the Road until our feet were killing us. But we thoroughly enjoyed it all. Other entertainments in the House were given by several old friends—the Arena Players presented *The H<sub>2</sub>O Show*, and enjoyable record programmes were given by Mr. Les Harris and Mr. Michael Hayes.

## Theatre Royal

The big event at the Theatre Royal was the appearance of Douglas Fairbanks Jnr., with a brilliant supporting cast, in *The Pleasure of His Company*. What a joy it was to see comedy played with such style and perfect timing! Wilfred Hyde White was, as always, just himself, but oh! that marvellous throw-away wit! It was an evening to cherish.

Speaking of *The Pleasure of His Company* brings us, naturally enough, to the Handless Reunion, and the pleasure of their company. The opening dinner was held on the last day of the month—what is known as going out in a blaze of glory! There was just one regret—owing to illness, Winnie Edwards and Mrs. Tommy Gaygan were unable to be with us. However, they were certainly in our thoughts, and we wished them both a speedy return to health. The Reunion jollifications continue over the first few days of October, and then (praise be to Allah!) we have a few days of comparative calm before it's all systems go again. And so we bid you a cheerful, if somewhat hoarse, farewell for a month.

## Chess Weekend

This will be held from 5th-7th November inclusive, and we look forward to seeing the chess enthusiasts, also those who would like to learn.



# Deaf - Blind Reunion

by Ron Ellis

Anchors away and full steam ahead was the order of the day for the lads at the Deaf/Blind Reunion this year. Matron Blackford launched us off with a sherry or two, followed by an excellent opening dinner. After the Toast was drunk, Commandant gave a short speech welcoming the lads and the Guests who were Miss Rogers, Miss Carlton and Doctor O'Hara. Wally Thomas, then voiced what we were all thinking, how very nice it was to have our old friends with us once again. Dinner over, we all settled down to a right old chat, talking about the past and the present times, Commandant and Doc on form as usual with their banter. I thought Doc was coming over to me with a breathalyser, as someone told me that the speed limit in the dorms had been changed from slow to dead slow but not to worry, he only asked me if I was O.K. for the long trip out the following day. So the evening came to a close. I am sure I speak for all when I say a sincere thank you to the staff and the cook for a lovely meal.

The following morning saw us off on our big day out. It was early, but with a good breakfast tucked away and the sun shining brightly, who cared. All aboard the transport and comfy, we were off, destination Gosport. We arrived at H.M.S. Dolphin at around ten o'clock, we were then taken to the Atlantis Club for a coffee with Naval personnel. Now our escorts really got down to it, telling us all about the club and what a smashing place. After coffee, we boarded the minibus which took us to Petrol Pier, where we were to be taken for a tour of H.M. Submarine Alliance. I do not know



*Wally Thomas, Ted Porter and Ron Ellis are getting the feel of the footplate.*

whether I can say much here, so I will say it was a wonderful experience walking around and feeling some of the different things that helped to make the sub. go. It really amazed us how the lads got around so fast in such small surroundings. To me at any rate, it must take courage to go down in the subs., but as one of the Naval lads said, if you like it then you just get used to it. I will still say, "Hats off folks to the Submariners". The tour drawing to its end, we could not find Wally for a few seconds, then one of the Naval lads happened to look along one of the torpedo tubes and sure enough there was Wally, a great lad for detail that! The tour over, we were ordered to surface, so up through the hatch we crawled, a very tricky bit of work coming up the steps. It was good to feel the sun on our faces. Our sincere thanks to the Navy boys for all their kind help and we were fortunate to have them with us for the rest of the tour, as there was still a lot more to see.

All aboard the minibus again for a tour of the main jetty then on to Atlantis Club for drinks and a buffet lunch—our compliments to the cook.

Feeling very much refreshed, we set off once again, this time for a tour of the Naval Base by boat. Our escorts were kept very busy giving us all the information we wanted and telling us what the



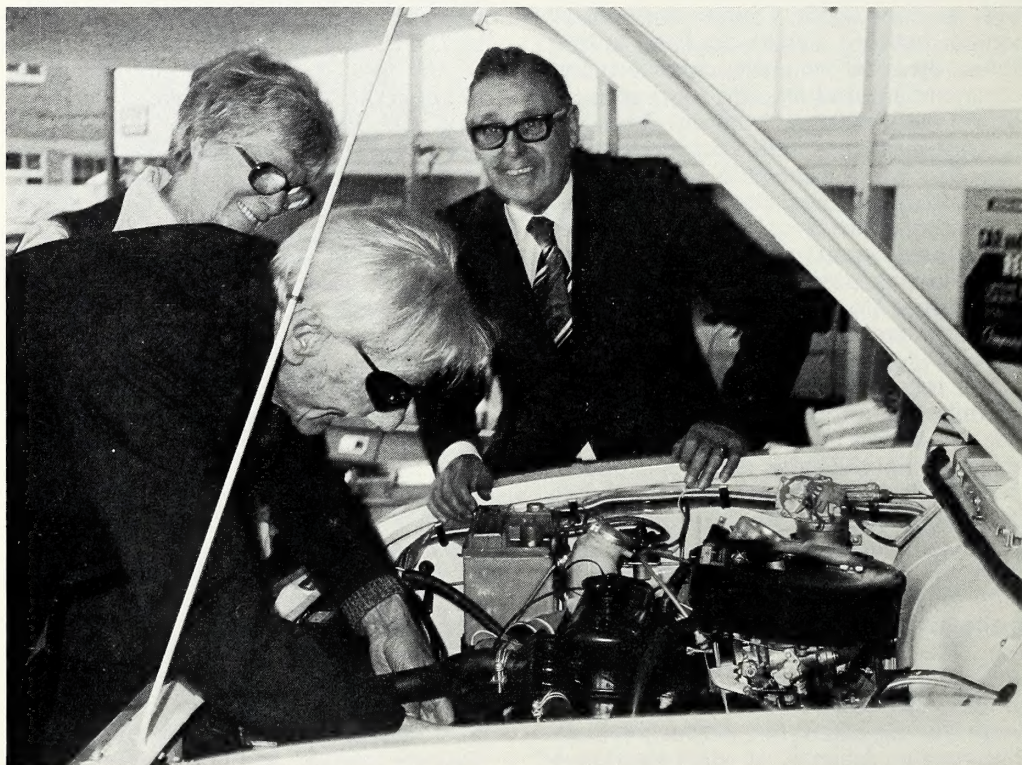
Naval boys were saying. We passed quite a few missile carrying destroyers and we were very lucky to pass the Royal Yacht. It was a pleasant run and we were sorry it all had to come to an end, for the time went by so quickly. On behalf of the muffs and their escorts, I say sincere thanks to the Naval personnel for all their kind help and understanding. En route for Ian Fraser House we stopped for a much needed cuppa and to give the lassies our escorts a much needed break. At 7.15 p.m. we were off to the White Horse, Rottingdean, for dinner to finish off a perfect day.

Saturday was a rather quiet day to enable us to get our steam up for the Sunday afternoon visit to Sheffield Park. After morning cuppa, we boarded the transport to visit Messrs Wadham Stringer, and Messrs Harringtons, Old Shoreham Road, for a tour of the car showrooms. A very pleasant two hours were spent walking around and having the new models described to us and all the new fitments which they have fitted

in to them. Coming out of the showroom, there was only one or I should say two words on my lips, Buy British. The models were outstanding and I was told the finish is much better. Of course, the one we all fell for was the little 134 m.p.h. MG, a real little snorter and, of course, a real snorting price. Ha ! Well, nothing like dreaming now and then. Our sincere thanks to the salesman who gave us all the info.

Back to Ian Fraser House for lunch, then a little rest up. Quarter past three found us on our way to Pearson House to have tea with Matron Hallett and staff, it is always a real pleasure to meet Matron and to see our old friends again. For the next two hours Wally, Ted and myself tried so hard to outpace the ladies with the pow-wow, but it was just no good, the ladies won by one word or I should say two words, "Shut Up". Well, not to worry, time soon flew by while we were all talking and enjoying a lovely tea. It was time for us to be away, sincere thanks Matron for a very nice afternoon. Back at Ian Fraser House

*A new car in Wadham Stringer's showroom under close inspection by Ted Porter.*







*Among the historic locomotives at the Bluebell Railway.*

for dinner, then during the evening there was a nice quiet game of dominoes for those that like to play.

Sunday morning was do as you please, I think the other lads did the same as I did, went for a walk with an escort till nearly lunch time. A quarter to two found us aboard the transport bound for Sheffield Park, for a tour of the Railway Museum and a trip on the Bluebell Railway. It made one feel as if you wanted to shed a tear, when you think of such proud locomotives standing idle and being pushed away into the corners of the country. There is one thing certain, the diesel will never look as good as these old locos.

After the tour of the trains we made our way to the station. While walking along the platform, our escorts told us it was good to see the old advertisements nailed to the fences and walls. The smell of the smoke and steam took us right back to the good old days when the steam train was in its full glory. Our poor escorts were walking about with their hands over their ears, for they said the noise was awful, especially when the whistles were blown. Seemed quiet to us though.

The trip on the railway was very good, the coach which we travelled in was over 60 years old and the springing was very

soft. When the train did a little speeding the coach would rock from side to side, very nice if you were on a long journey and went into a nap, it felt as if you were floating. The trip over and getting off the train, my escort told me that there were dozens of people waiting to get on, many of them tourists. We made our way to the cafe for a cuppa, we certainly needed it to swill the dust down. We all went into the museum looking like angels, but now it was all over we looked as if we had just finished an eight hour stint on the footplate. Of course we had to have a go at climbing on the plate of an engine or two, but there was one thing we forgot, the grime and grease. Oh boy! it was a good job our next stop was to be The Roebuck Hotel, Wych Cross, Forest Row. The first thing the boys did was to have a good wash and brush up then we all sat down to a much needed dinner, we all agreed that the dinner was excellent. Dinner over and our tootsies rested we made our way to the minibus which whisked us away to Ian Fraser House, feeling a little tired but very happy with the day, another one to remember.

Monday, the last day, it was still, "Come on chaps, get off your chin straps, we are on the move again". A cuppa in the



lounge first, then at 11.45 a.m., we were off to visit Mr. Albert Hook's workshop in Duke Street, Brighton, to see restoration of antique furniture.

As we touched and ran our hands over each item of furniture Mr. Hook gave us a short history of the make and origin and what he had done and what had to be done. By the touch we could tell that Mr. Hook took pride in his workmanship. A sighted person, I would say, would have a job to see where the piece had been repaired. It was all so very interesting, we thank Mr. Hook and his son for a very enjoyable and interesting morning and wish them all the best of luck and plenty of restoration work in the future.

At half past three we had a very pleasant tea with Mr. Wills, Commandant, Matron and the welfare staff. It is always a great pleasure to meet and to talk to Mr. Wills also the welfare staff, for much water passes beneath the bridge before we meet them again. As always, they were ready to help us with our problems, time soon flew by and it was now time to say our Cheerios to Miss Mosley and Miss Lord. The lads and I say sincere thanks for coming down to see us. A quick dash now, to our rooms for a good wash and brush up to get ready for the farewell Dinner.

On arrival at the Eaton Restaurant we were taken to one of the lounges, a cocktail was taken, then dinner was announced. A truly excellent dinner was served and the service was perfect. Our sincere thanks to the Management and staff for their kind attention and understanding.

### **Superb Reunion**

Dinner now drawing to a close, we sat back feeling radiant sipping a black coffee, Commandant and Mr. Wills spoke briefly. Then Wally Thomas gave a speech, what a wonderful and happy Reunion we had this year and to say it was very nice to have had Mr. and Mrs. Ted Porter with us on every outing this year, now they must rest up a bit ready for next year's Reunion. Wally finished his speech by giving, on behalf of the other muffies, our sincere thanks to Mrs. Williams for organising a superb Reunion, also to all those concerned in making it such a happy occasion, our sincere thanks too to Matron, for making our stay at Ian Fraser House a comfortable and happy one, sincere thanks too to our escorts and staff, for their help and kindness and so ended another Reunion, but never forgotten.

*Ron Ellis with Kay Smith and Wally Thomas with Dorothy Williams at Sheffield Park Station.*







*Rifle shooting champion at the Handless Reunion, David Bell, receives his trophy from Sir Douglas Morris at the farewell dinner.*

## THE HANDLESS REUNION

by Ted Miller

Arriving at Ian Fraser House on Thursday evening, 29th October, for our annual get together, we were dined and wined in the Winter Garden restaurant by our hosts Commandant Fawcett and Matron Blackford. It was grand to see Matron still in command, and we are all very sad that this will be her last reunion with us as Matron—although we hope to have her as our guest many times in the future.

Our good friend and guest of honour, Dr. O'Hara, made his usual contribution with a good supply of short stories, ably supported by Commandant, and a good time was had by all. Our only regret was the absence of Winnie Edwards who, we hope, has now fully recovered from 'flu—and remembering and missing Stan Southall, who was always so cheerful on these occasions.

Our thanks to all the staff who provided us with an excellent spread, as they always do.

On Friday morning, with the weather friendly, we made our way by coach to Alfriston to visit the wine cellars at Drusilla's Restaurant. It was most interesting to hear all about the tricks of the trade in wine and cider making (also cheese making) and to see the excellent collection of cork screws, wine bottles and equipment etc., some dating back to the 17th century. Our guide really knew his subject, and made it even more interesting when he let us sample some of the local brews. We had plenty of time between lunch and tea to explore the pottery, bakehouse, garden centre and gift shop before returning to Ovingdean for supper.

Saturday morning was a "work morning" when we held our general meeting among ourselves in the Winter Garden and, after a free afternoon and supper at Ian Fraser House, we embarked on the coach with our wives and escorts for an evening's entertainment at the Congress



Theatre, Eastbourne to see the final performance of the summer show starring Cilla Black, Ray Alan and Lord Charles, Los Reales del Paraguay, Lennie Bennett and others. It was a very enjoyable evening of variety and we arrived back home in the early hours of the morning, tired but well content.

### **Chevening House**

Sunday morning was again a free morning, and after lunch we drove to Chevening House, the home of H.R.H. Prince Charles, near Sevenoaks in Kent, where we were to be entertained to drinks and refreshments by the Deputy Chairman of the Trustees of the Chevening Estate, Sir John Hewitt, K.C.V.O., C.B.E., and Lady Hewitt. This was surely the highlight of our entertainments, as we were so graciously received by Sir John, Lady Hewitt, friends and staff, and made to feel at home right away.

It will be a most delightful home when it is completely furnished to H.R.H. Prince Charles' wishes, and Sir John gave

us a most interesting and factual tour of the house explaining the work that had already been done, for example the restoration of a most wonderful library with the help and advice of the Victoria and Albert Museum. And we were all fascinated by the magnificent wood staircase in the entrance hall. It was an unsupported circular flight of stairs and had recently been stripped of its old dark varnish, and it looked really elegant. Because of its structure, only a few people are allowed to be on the staircase at the same time.

### **Home of the Dacres**

It was interesting to us St. Dunstaners to learn that Chevening was originally the home of the Dacres, ancestors of Air-Commodore Dacre, who most St. Dunstaners will remember, before being sold in the 17th Century to the Stanhope family. We owe Mrs. Dacre a great deal for making these visits possible for us, and she is now so very much part of our annual reunion.

*Gwen Obern and Bill Griffiths give an impromptu duet.*





I'm sure we shall all remember, too, Gwen Obern singing our thanks to our hosts and their friends for us at the end of our visit.

This visit was made even more pleasurable by the splendid dinner we had awaiting us at the Roebuck Hotel in Forest Row. The staff here are so friendly and helpful and the food so delicious that it really was the climax to a most exciting day.

On Monday morning, domestic discussions were held in the Winter Garden, Mr. French, Commandant and Mr. Castleton in attendance, and Mr. Wills taking the chair. At the afternoon session, we were joined by Dr. Fletcher, Mr. Dufton and Miss Mosley.

Dr. Fletcher gave us more information on work being done at Roehampton and Mr. Dufton put us in the picture on work being done on aids for the blind in the electronic field and mobility.

Time always catches up with us on these occasions and before we realised it, it was time for us to end all discussions and proceed to get ready for our farewell dinner in the Gold Room at the Eaton Restaurant in Hove.

Our hosts here were Air Marshall Sir Douglas Morris and Lady Morris, and the guests of honour were Mrs. Dacre, Dr. Fletcher, Mr. Wills, Commandant, Matron, Miss Mosley, Mr. French and Mr. Castleton, and as usual there was plenty to talk about.

Sir Douglas Morris made the speech of welcome and gave us the loyal toast.

Dr. Fletcher was in his usual fine form, and the vote of thanks from us was given by Bill Griffiths and we all echoed his sentiments.

A special thanks to Matron, Commandant and staff, especially remembering Mrs. Williams who arranges the programme for us. Also we musn't forget the drivers.

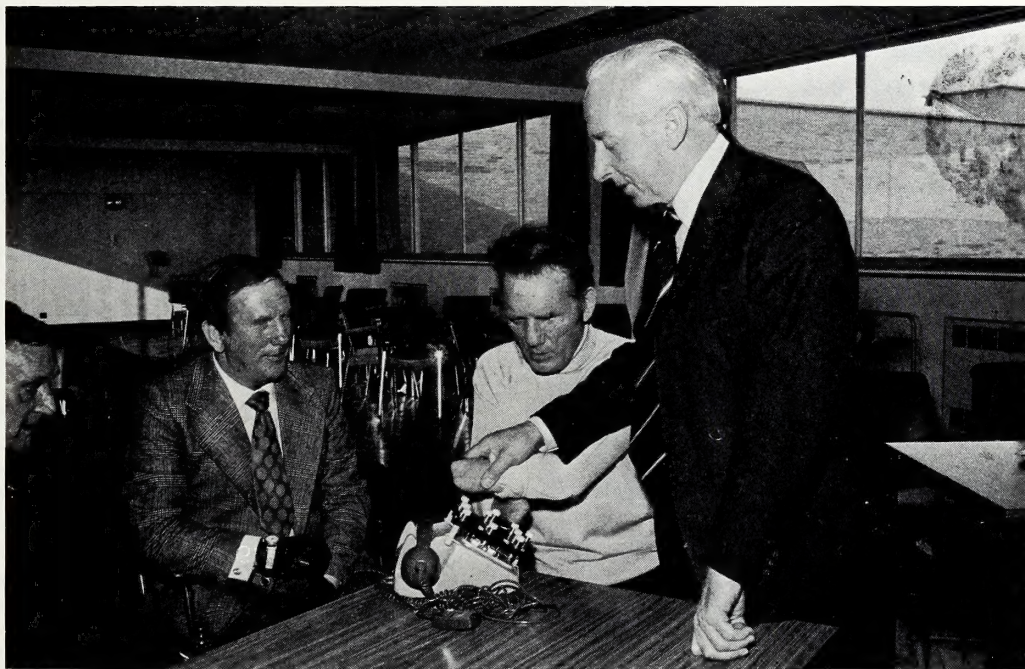
Our thanks, too, to Mr. Wills and his staff at Headquarters.

I think I can say that a very good time was had by all.

#### **Message from Mrs. Gaygan:**

Audrey Gaygan would like to thank the Handy Andy boys and girls for the flowers they sent her.

*Norman French demonstrates a device to adapt the new push-button telephone for handless use to Tommy Gaygan and Bill Griffiths.*







*Together—on his first race walk Harold Smith is escorted by Ed Curtis*

Photos—H.M.S. Daedalus

*Douglas Howard putting the shot.*



# HMS Daedalus 1976

by Douglas Howard

We arrived at Southampton on Friday, 13th August and were soon on the bus heading towards Costa del Solent and the playing fields of H.M.S. Daedalus, where Elspeth Grant met us with introductions to our "guide dogs". Mine was six feet two and the heavy weight champion boxer of the Royal Navy. In a few minutes I met my three cabin mates who had just arrived on the bus from London. Meeting these three North Country comedians confirmed it would be a good week—they were Ted Jinks, Charlie Hague and Granville Waterworth.

## Thanks to Gun Crews

Before I go any further, I should like to thank Captain Robotham and Commander Croft on behalf of all of us who attended the camp. Many thanks to the gun crews of 1976, a really splendid set of chaps, and we were also delighted to meet again many friends of former years who came forward to make sure we enjoyed ourselves. Congratulations are due to Mrs. Spurway and her husband, Rev. Frank Spurway, and, of course, we must not forget to include her helpers Dr. and Mrs. Percy Parkes, Miss Helen Cowdell, Miss Diana Hoare, Miss Kath Riley, Mrs. Sheila McLeod, Miss Maisie Street, Miss Elspeth Grant, Bill Harris and Ben Mills.

All competitors showed a high standard of fitness in not only the walk on Saturday morning, but also all other events and obviously much serious training had been done.

Saturday afternoon was free and in the evening a social evening was arranged at the F/C.P.O.'s mess with dancing to the St. Dunstan's Band: Peter Spencer—piano, Joe Humphrey—accordion, Ernie Cookson—saxophone, Bill Miller—drums.

After church on Sunday morning we were entertained at the Icarus Club, adjoining the Wardroom, with coffee, and later followed drinks and a friendly chat



with the Officers of Daedalus. This is always a popular event.

Sunday evening at the P.O.'s mess proved a success with dancing to a very good band and vocalist. Here again many old friendships were renewed and a good time was had by all.

On Monday evening at the F/C.P.O.'s mess a presentation of gold cuff links was made to Doctor Parkes, followed by a presentation of a travelling clock to Mrs. Isobel Parkes for putting up with him for so many years. Another travelling clock was presented to Miss Helen Cowdell for putting up with us fellows for so many years. This was then followed by the Dennis Deacon Memorial Concert—and many thanks to Mrs. Deacon who gave generous support towards fees for the artistes, who were: Margaret Smith—soprano, Phyllis Gillingham—piano accordion, Leslie Adams—comedian, and Gordon Fellingham, L.R.A.M.—accompanist. As usual everybody enjoyed the concert.

### **Sports in the Sun**

We were very fortunate this year, as sunshine prevailed and the sports took place on the airfield. Four teams competed and the events were: javelin, discus, medicine ball, sling ball, standing jump, three shots at the goal, also sprint.

In the afternoon there was a Bridge tournament, and a Swimming Gala at St. Vincent's Pool, where events included breast stroke, plunge, free style, crawl, and diving for plates.

The Eagle Club, always a popular event, was well attended. We danced to a splendid band and plenty of refreshments were available. Here, a hearty vote of thanks to the Eagle Club President and his Committee. I'm sure we shall all be looking forward to the next function at the Eagle Club in 1977.

During the week trips to the Isle of Wight to Cowes Royal British Legion were arranged. Many thanks to the Chairman, his committee and members of Cowes British Legion for their generous hospitality on both trips. Judging by the singing on board returning, everyone must certainly have enjoyed themselves on the island.

Meanwhile, others were carrying on the traditions of the fishermen of England,

and Bill Reed again turned up trumps arranging fishing trips. The first prize went to Jimmy Wright for a catch of three pounds six ounces.

The dance at Titchfield was even better than last year, being very well attended, and a fine band played whilst we all enjoyed ourselves dancing and enjoying refreshments all evening. A supper dance, organised by Mrs. Marjorie Freeman at Titchfield in February of this year had raised £183 which went towards the Camp Funds. On behalf of all St. Dunstaners, thank you ladies for this splendid effort, and we would also like to thank Admiral and Mrs. Peter Buchanan for all their generous hospitality at their swimming pool, where we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Another supper dance to raise funds will be held at the Titchfield Community Centre on Saturday, 19th March, when it is hoped that many St. Dunstaners will attend, and this time why not bring your wives along?

Thursday morning saw a party of us enjoying a trip on the Hovercraft with the pilot, Mr. Ian Trusler. These craft always seem such noisy things that I was pleasantly surprised when Mr. Trusler spoke to us all the way on the intercom explaining his moves along Haslar Wall, then to Portsmouth, coming to rest on Southsea Sands, where he did a 180 degree turn. We then crossed the Solent to Bembridge, returning to our starting point at H.M.S. Daedalus. This trip was by courtesy of the British Hovercraft Corporation, and I am sure everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

### **Mystery Tour**

The Mystery Tour organised by Kath Riley to H.M.S. Collingwood was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who went on the trip.

Lee-on-Solent Royal British Legion invited a party of forty of us for a buffet lunch and a concert given by members of the Legion Club, and our thanks go to the Chairman and his committee.

The same day, Thursday afternoon, a car treasure hunt was held. The winner was Charles Campkin, and second, Peter Spencer.

The highlight of the week came on Thursday evening with the presentation of prizes by Captain Robotham in the





*Below Throwing in the sling-ball event is Jimmy Wright.*



*Above Band Boys Bill Miller, Peter Spencer, Ernie Cookson and Joe Humphrey.*

F/C.P.O.'s mess, preceded by an address by the Chairman of St. Dunstan's Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, who was accompanied by Mrs. Garnett-Orme. Other distinguished visitors included the Mayor and Mayoress of Gosport, Mr. and Mrs. Borros, resplendent in all their finery, and also Sir Alec and Lady Rose.

Friday morning saw a party visiting H.M.S. Victory. There was also swimming in the afternoon, and Bridge.

The culmination of a fantastic week of sport and entertainment came at the Farewell Dance held at the F/C.P.O.'s mess with a jumbo raffle. It really was a great evening, saying goodbyes to old and new friends.

To you, Dickie Bird, President, F/C.P.O.'s mess, and your Committee, may we say we hope you will have recovered from our excesses of this year sufficiently to invite us back in 1977, when we can again repeat our thanks for the fabulous time you have given us this year.

In conclusion, I hope that Chief Wren Harris, C.P.O.s Alan Price and Colin Jones, P.O. Joe Banner, President, P.O.'s mess, the Field Gun Crews, also former members of Field Crews as well as all our other friends too numerous to mention, will accept our hearty thanks for all they did for us during our memorable week.



# DETAILED SPORTS RESULTS

## Field Events

### Victors Ludorum

TB: J. Humphrey (24 points out of 32)

PS: T. Tatchell (23 points out of 32)

### Best Beginner

G. Hudson (23 points out of 32)

### Winning Team

(No. 1 with 86 points)

David Bell (Captain)

Arthur Carter

Ernie Cookson

Joe Humphrey

Charles Stafford

John Taylor

Harry Walden

### Second Team

(No. 3 with 85 points)

Ike Pellington (Captain)

Johnny Cope

Les Halliday

Doug Howard

George Hudson

Granville Waterworth

Bill Shea

### Individual Events

<i>Javelin T.B.</i>	E. Jinks	70' 6"
<i>Javelin P.S.</i>	D. Howard	60' 0"
<i>Sprint T.B.</i>	E. Jinks	10.4 secs.
<i>Sprint P.S.</i>	W. Miller	10.4 secs.
<i>Discus T.B.</i>	P. Spencer	63' 0"
<i>Discus P.S.</i>	T. Tatchell	62' 0"
<i>Standing Long Jump T.B.</i>	D. Bell	7' 3"
<i>Standing Long Jump P.S.</i>	H. Walden	7' 9"
<i>Sling Ball T.B.</i>	P. Spencer	79' 0"
<i>Sling Ball P.S.</i>	T. Tatchell	71' 0"
<i>Medicine Ball T.B.</i>	J. Humphrey	28' 9"
<i>Medicine Ball P.S.</i>	T. Tatchell	30' 6"
<i>Shot T.B.</i>	J. Humphrey	21' 0"
<i>Shot P.S.</i>	T. Tatchell	23' 4"

## Car Treasure Hunt

1st	Charles Campkin	Driver Charles Baker Observer Mrs. Baker
2nd	Peter Spencer	Driver Geoff Wheatley Observer Mrs. Wheatley

## Swimming and Diving

### Victor Ludorum

Joe Humphrey

## Results of the 2½ Mile Walk

<i>Order of Finish</i>	<i>Handicap Time</i>	<i>Allowance</i>	<i>Actual Time</i>
<b>E. Jinks</b>	<b>21.18</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>28.18</b>
D. Howard	22.16	7.50	30.06
W. Smith	23.16	14.10	37.26
A. Carter	23.23	3.35	26.58
W. Scott	23.45	10.05	33.50
T. Tatchell	23.46	3.30	27.16
R. Young	23.50	3.40	27.30
J. Wright	23.51	4.15	28.06
L. Webber	23.55	9.00	32.55
P. Spencer	24.40	6.25	31.05
C. Stafford	24.42	3.20	28.02
W. Miller	24.42	none	24.42
H. Walden	26.17	3.30	29.47
G. Hudson	26.45	5.00	31.45
C. Hague	27.14	6.25	33.39
J. Padley	27.59	6.10	34.09
Dennis Deacon	Veteran's Cup	—	R. Young
Bridget Talbot	Novices' Cup	—	E. Jinks
Fastest Loser's Cup		—	W. Miller

## WALKING SECTION

The members of the walking section, who attend the Lee-on-Solent camp, held a meeting to decide the future of the section

It was agreed that with so few St. Dunstaners taking part now, the high expenses incurred by members themselves, their escorts and helpers, and St. Dunstan's by way of prizes and refreshments were prohibitive, and could not be justified, as the real competitiveness of the walks had disappeared long ago with the dwindling number of entrants, it was therefore decided that: St. Dunstan's Walking Section are now "resting" until there is an increase in real interest and racing members.

It was also agreed that a presentation be made to Mr. & Mrs. Plant of Ewell, for their kindness in providing the amenities at Ewell for so many years. Any past walkers or friends who would like to be associated with this presentation, are invited to send contributions to myself care of St. Dunstan's headquarters, or to Bill Harris or via any member of the walking section that they may be in touch with.

BILL MILLER



# Research Comment

## COMMUNICATION FOR THE BLIND

by Richard Dufton

A reading machine for the blind was featured earlier this year in a BBC radio broadcast when a recording was heard of an American device for converting print on the page into spoken English.

This very considerable achievement would, I feel sure, have been of the greatest possible interest to our late Chairman, for Lord Fraser's appreciation of the promise held out by Science and Technology to benefit the blind, was profound.

In defining the need to "make the printed page talk" there was a conviction that made a powerful impact on researchers and administrators who heard his lucid addresses at the main International Conferences on both sides of the Atlantic in recent years.

From 1960 onwards, about equal emphasis was accorded to reading and to mobility problems in St. Dunstan's research programme under the aegis of our Scientific Committee of multi-disciplinary membership with Dr. D. E. Broadbent, C.B.E., F.R.S., as Chairman.

### New Alphabet

The reading machine topic was approached at the level of matching optically detected features of print to speech-like sounds in a new alphabet which users had to learn. There was close co-operation with other groups in this country who were investigating artificial or synthesised speech for advanced communications or commercial services and, eventually, by computer simulation a discriminable code was evolved. The code did not prove too difficult for young sighted students at the University of Sussex to learn, but, for a number of reasons, at the end of the project it was decided not to go to the next stage and build a portable working prototype.

In the event, a more ambitious assault on the reading problems would have entailed much greater effort and the investigation would have taken place

ahead of the essential technology we now know to be involved in the economic conversion of print into spoken English.

### Kurzweil Reading Machine

The new American aid is called the Kurzweil Reading Machine, after its inventor. There are three main components in the desk top unit—a camera, tracking across the page and feeding a small computer with about  $\frac{1}{4}$  million signals of information about letter shapes per second. The computer, with a recognition system of over 1,000 phonetic rules, assembles whole words which are signalled to a speech synthesiser to give spoken output at a rate of 150 words per minute, that is claimed to have a degree of modulation and stress variation to aid context. The developers have contracted with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington and with an independent group in the U.S.A., The National Federation of the Blind, to evaluate eleven machines, commencing in the latter part of 1976. Stringent trials will be needed to discover how well users handle the machine—compensating for errors that may well result when reading a range of different type styles. There is a "back-space" facility for the operator to use when a particular word proves too difficult for the system to recognise at the whole word level. The user presses a switch, the camera back-tracks and the difficult word is spelled out letter by letter, the camera resuming its automatic traverse across the page afterwards.

A decision on the practicability of developing a production model is unlikely to be taken before all the evaluation results are available—the cost of the present model is about £15,000 each, but this has little relevance to the cost of a production engineered model which would no doubt be considered in the light of total world demand.

We may thus be about to witness in the next few years another advance in the progress of communications aids for the



blind with its 200 years' history from the time of Valentine Haüy's enlarged letter shapes in relief, in 1780.

Braille, after 150 years, is still proving adaptable enough to permit improvements in mathematical codes and scientific notation on an international basis, and also to keep pace with the technological developments aimed to present information in a range of business situations where significant inroads in new employment areas, including computer programming, have recently been made.

## Moon

Moon, after a century, still plays a valuable role especially where, for reasons of age, or other factors that deleteriously affect the sense of touch, the more continuous characters of this system can be comprehended with a facility not likely to be achieved in the case of Braille, with its "point to point" stimulation of the sensing finger and potentially higher reading rate, once the code has been mastered.

Although wireless has been with us for about 50 years, it is in the last quarter century that the invention of the transistor has revolutionised the design, with a considerable reduction in bulk of tape recorders, radio receivers and an endless range of high fidelity equipment, and all sections of the community have benefitted from the dramatic improvement in musical reproduction with the sad exception of the deaf and of our deaf/blind colleagues.

## Pioneering Researches

Even the briefest review of communications facilities for the blind would be woefully lacking were it not to pause and consider again the implications of those pioneering researches of the mid 30's, aimed to reduce one of the main handicaps of blindness and give a degree of access to print. The recording disc of that time was effectively slowed down and the first practicable Talking Book emerged from Lord Fraser's legendary garden workshop in Regent's Park. Through the vicissitudes of War, of economic and technological change over the next 40 years, he took the closest

personal interest in the development and expansion of the Talking Book Service and, by that fateful day in 1974, nearly half the blind people in this country and many more overseas were listening to the Talking Book in their homes; a cause for the greatest possible satisfaction to he who had first decreed "that the printed page should talk".

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# READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 1499*

## The Great Affair

by Victor Canning

*Read by David Broomfield*

*Reading Time 11 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours*

Nelo Sangster, ex-priest and member of an upper-crust family, has just finished three years in prison for fraud. The undeniable fact that he committed the offence purely to improve the finances of a children's charity finds no favour at all with Church and State. He is sent to jail and de-frocked. (I always thought the word was "unfrocked").

He teams up with Sarah, a wayward and mendacious Irish girl, who shares his view that "the great affair is to move". They do move, with some effect, and share many adventures in foreign climes. Sangster "steals" from his brother a diamond necklace (which he claims is morally his property) and as a result is blackmailed into joining "Them".

This organisation is never specified, but seems to be a mix of the Mafia, the CIA and MI5. More stirring adventures.

Up to this point the book is a gentle send-up of all the cloak-and-dagger tales that have gone before. But then the author gets a bit serious and one of the main characters dies (I won't spoil it by saying which one) and the story ends with Nelo reconciled to a new life and—presumably—living happily ever after.

A bright and witty book, entertainingly written and crammed with (of all things!) scores of very apt Biblical quotations.



# READING TIME

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*Continued*

*Cat. No. 710*

## **Eugenie Grandet**

by Honoré de Balzac  
trans. by Ellen Marriage  
*Read by Robin Holmes*  
*Reading Time 9½ hours*

The story deals with the inmates of one ramshackle old house in a small French country town in the early part of the nineteenth century. Félix Grandet the cooper is the object of the lively interest of all his neighbours.

For "good man" Grandet is cast in the classic mould of the skinflint miser. Each day he doles out bread, lumps of sugar, candles and firewood to his luckless family, Madame Grandet, his daughter Eugenie and the faithful serving-wench. A cunning and ruthless business-man he amasses a vast fortune. The more money he makes, the more he must have. Love of gold is an all-consuming passion with him.

The suicide of his bankrupt brother leaves him unmoved and he moves quickly to persuade his now-penniless nephew, Charles, to emigrate.

But Eugenie and her cousin have fallen in love, swearing undying devotion. She will wait for him.

After many years Charles returns a wealthy man—to a marriage of convenience to a girl of noble family. Eugenie, a millionairess since her father's death, is left to live out her life in loneliness, with only sycophants and fortune-hunters for company.

De Balzac's marvellous facility for depicting French life, with all its follies and frailties, is brilliantly brought out in this splendid translation.

*Cat. No. 336*

## **Sons and Lovers**

by D. H. Lawrence  
*Read by Gabriel Woolf*  
*Reading Time 17½ hours*

This is the Lawrence classic about the life and times of the Morell family in a small Nottinghamshire mining community at the beginning of the century.

The character drawing is quite superb as one might expect. There is Mrs. Morell, the heart and brains of the family, anxious and watchful for her children's welfare. And Morell himself, loutish drunken inadequate, a strangely sad figure.

But the story deals mainly with the three loves of the son Paul, the fierce almost suffocating devotion to his mother, the abstract, clinically-cold passion for Miriam and the destructive and tempestuous affair with Clara.

The book contains some of Lawrence's best prose—and some of his worst—the "purple patches" could be a little too purple for modern taste. For sadly, the book which helped to establish Lawrence as an important novelist, is very dated.

But if you can bear with this small "flaw" and your only experience of Lawrence is the very inferior "Lady Chatterley"—then this book is well worth a try.

*Cat. No. 547*

## **Valley of the Dolls**

by Jacqueline Susann  
*Read by Marvin Kane*  
*Reading Time 16¾ hours*

This is the story of the adventures, social, sexual and professional, of three women in New York and Hollywood, and spanning the twenty years after the war.

It takes a hard and unsentimental look at showbusiness "success", with its attendant cruelties, its boredom and intense loneliness, its only panacea for all its ills being booze and drugs.

This is not a "nice" book. It paints a graphic and merciless picture of the ugliness and megalomania of the American "showbiz" scene, a world of unhappy people whose only solace lies in the blessed "dolls", red dolls to pep you up, yellow dolls to calm you down, multi-coloured dolls to bring merciful oblivion in sleep.

A very well constructed book which makes fascinating reading—for adults only.



*Cat. No. 1974*

**Inspector Ghote Goes by Train**

by H. R. F. Keating

*Read by Stephen Jack*

*Reading Time 7¾ hours*

Inspector Ghote of the Bombay C.I.D. is sent to Calcutta to bring back the notorious confidence trickster, A. K. Batacharia, who has made a vast fortune from selling fake antiques to gullible and wealthy tourists.

His companions on the forty-odd hour journey are a mixed lot. There is Mr. Ramaswarmi, railway official, the two hippies Red and Mary Jane (travelling without tickets).

And there is Mr. A. K. Bannajee, the tall and immaculate Bengali. He talks incessantly. He knows all about the inspector and his mission. He knows a great deal about antiques. He is full of admiration and sympathy for the crook. His hair is dyed. Even the initials on his suitcase, A.K.B.—

A truly amazing coincidence. If the real A. K. Batacharia were not safely lodged in Dum-Dum jail . . .

Ghote receives a wire. A. K. Batacharia is *not* safely lodged in Dum-Dum.

This is a lovely book, full of interest and action (and totally without sex, violence or swear-words, which is quite something in itself!) It has splendidly-written dialogue and the Indian atmosphere is so authentic, you can almost *smell* the bustling and steamy Chowringi.

Which is remarkable considering that Keating, at the time of the Ghote books at least, had never set foot in the country!

*Cat. No. 1185*

**The Godfather**

by Mario Puzo

*Read by Robert Gladwell*

*Reading Time 19¼ hours*

The Godfather is Vito Corione, head of The Family in New York. He is loved and respected by its members. He is accorded the honoured courtesy title of "The Don".

"The Family" is the Mafia and the book deals with the vicious and bloody struggle

for power between the Coriones and the other "great families" in New York. It is purely a matter of business, as The Don says. If it is found necessary to butcher rivals, then there is "nothing personal"—it is "just business".

This is an earthy and violent book about vicious and brutal men with terrifying power. It is most certainly not light reading for Auntie Mabel and the kids, but for strong stomachs it makes enthralling and compelling reading.

*Cat. No. 416*

**Christopher and His Father**

by Hans Habe

*Read by George Hagan*

*Reading Time 13¾ hours*

Richard Wendeling was a distinguished film director with an international reputation. A committed Nazi, he made anti-Jewish films, the most infamous being "Ritual Murder", which earned him the name of "armchair murderer".

The story opens in 1952 and Christopher, Wendeling's son, is twenty-two. He is estranged from his father, loathing everything he and his kind stood for.

In an effort to expiate his father's guilt, Germany's guilt, Christopher goes to live in a kibbutz, adopting the Hebrew name of Abraham Avni. Things do not work out and he returns to Germany and his old identity.

He travels in Poland and Hungary, researching among the files of dead Jews and their murderers. It is as if he were trying to drown his father's guilt in a sea of collective German guilt, or to free himself from his father's guilt by disowning him. He fails. His father-fixation, Jew-complex follows him home to Germany. Even after his father's death nothing changes.

He decides to leave Germany for ever, but a chance conversation with a boy suddenly changes his whole thinking. He will stay and help build the new Germany.

A powerful and sensitive novel dealing with the agony of a people whose hands are stained with the blood of six million murders.



# Harrogate Bridge Week

by Robert Evans

On Saturday, September 11th, a party of thirteen St. Dunstan's bridge players, defying superstition, assembled at the Dirlton Hotel, Harrogate, for afternoon tea. Their confidence was fully justified because the ensuing week came up to all previous standards of excellence and enjoyment. The main party with their wives and escorts had set out from London that morning to join other friends who had travelled independently from the neighbouring counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire. This year our number included one newcomer, George Hudson, and Harry Meleson returning to Harrogate after an absence of many years.

## Mrs. Edith Pritchard

As last year Mrs. Edith Pritchard, secretary of the Harrogate Bridge Club, was to provide us with a full and exciting Bridge programme. We hope that her enterprise was rewarded by the obvious pleasure and enjoyment experienced by all who took part. Although the pattern of events closely followed that of other years, the Harrogate week lost nothing of its novelty and freshness, and it was good for us to renew acquaintance with old friends. This year we did not have the Indian Summer so typical of previous years, but there was more than enough of warmth in the welcome we received wherever we went.

There was little time to familiarise ourselves with our surroundings before we were on our way to the Harrogate Bridge Club for our first engagement, the St. Dunstan's Cup contest. The cup was retained by Mr. Don Rayner and his team, who were closely followed by one of our St. Dunstan's teams, composed of Vi Delaney, partnered by Wally Lethbridge, and Harry Meleson partnered by Jim Padley.

On Sunday evening we were the guests of the Civil Service Club at St. George's Hall, where a happy evening was crowned by our first success.

On Monday we met old friends at Knaresborough Golf Club, losing the match by a narrow margin.

## Ripon Bridge Club

Tuesday was marked with a double event, going in the afternoon to the Ripon Spa Hotel where we met members of the Ripon Bridge Club. A bonus to this match was the award of a prize to the first St. Dunstan's pair which this year was collected by Ron Freer and Bill Allen. In the evening we went to I.C.I. Fibres. Their mixed team proved much too good for St. Dunstan's but the blow was more than softened by the degree of hospitality we received.

Wednesday again contained double features, with first the long journey in the afternoon to Bradford for a match in unique and splendid rooms of this great club, but to lose only by a narrow margin. There was time enough on our return for some of us to walk after dinner to Oakdale Gold Club, this time to retrieve our fortunes in a close contest and to score our second win.

## Thursday's Programme

With the week now well advanced we looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to Thursday's programme, which in past years had been for most of us the main day. On this occasion we again had the pleasure of the company of Mr. Wills, who joined our party at the hotel shortly before noon and travelled with us and our friends by coach to the Drover's Inn for the traditional luncheon given by St. Dunstan's in honour of their closest Harrogate friends. After a first class meal, followed by the loyal toast, Mr. Wills in a witty and entertaining speech paid tribute on behalf of St. Dunstan's to our guests and particularly those who had helped to organise our week. The reply for the guests, usually delivered by Mr. Norman Green, was this year transferred to his



wife, Margaret, who delighted us all with an excellent reading of a ballad relating to a lady of humour and courage, entitled "I'm fine thank you". After a boisterous and very enjoyable afternoon we returned to our hotel where we said farewell to Mr. Wills and our friends. A quick change, followed by a hasty meal, and we were again on our way for the second encounter with I.C.I. at Crimple House. In this encounter, always recognised as not only a contest of bridge but also in keeping a clear head, our hosts and friends of I.C.I. proved successful on both counts, but only just.

### St. Dunstan's "At Home"

On Friday, our last full day, we had ample time to recover and prepare for the traditional St. Dunstan's "At Home". This has always taken the form of a Bridge Drive given at the hotel by St. Dunstan's in honour of their Harrogate friends, and to return in some small measure the welcome and hospitality received during the past week. We were grateful to Mr. Norman Green who again took charge in his inimitable style. The result of the Drive was:

1. Mrs. Campbell and  
Freddy Dickerson
2. Mrs. Manby and Bill Allen
3. Mr. Don Rayner and Bob Evans

Since it is the rule that St. Dunstaners should not take any prizes, the awards on this occasion were made to those coming in rotation with lower scores. Then came the distribution of prizes by Mrs. Vi Delaney, followed by floral presentations to Mrs. Pritchard and Mrs. Slater. It was then my pleasure to thank all our guests on behalf of St. Dunstan's, which was seconded and amplified by Paul Nuyens. Mrs. Pritchard replied for the Harrogate Club that it had given her great pleasure to have assisted us once again.

Throughout the week our party enjoyed the indefatigable and ever ready services

of Mr. Ian Dickson, paying his first visit to Harrogate, and in which he was ably assisted by Norman Smith with whom we were all delighted to renew acquaintance. With the end of the Bridge Drive we adjourned to the Hotel Lounge Bar for our customary informal party and for prolonged farewells to our friends.

Perhaps the events of the week are best summarised by one of our players who after successfully negotiating all obstacles on his way to his room was heard to say as he arrived, "—Sic transit Gloria Harrogate".

## BRIDGE NOTES

The Bridge Drive held on 25th September resulted as follows:

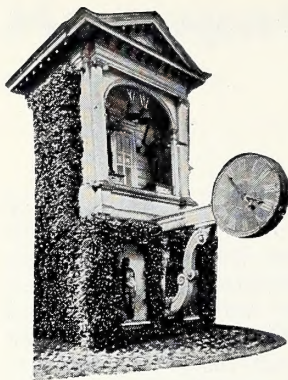
- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| <b>1st</b> | <b>J. Majchrowicz</b><br><b>Miss Beta Geraghty</b> |
| <b>2nd</b> | J. Carney<br>Mrs. Horstead                         |
| <b>3rd</b> | A. Caldwell<br>Miss S. Lyons                       |

We had a good turn-out of seven tables and our St. Dunstan Vera Kemmish presented the prizes.

With only one match left to play in the monthly Individuals, the totals of the best five results are as follows:

B. Allen	366
B. Evans	344
R. Armstrong	342
L. Douglass	341
F. Dickerson	334
J. Lynch	331
Miss V. Kemmish	331
P. Nuyens	325
H. Meleson	324
W. Miller	311
R. Goding	303
J. Majchrowicz	300





# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

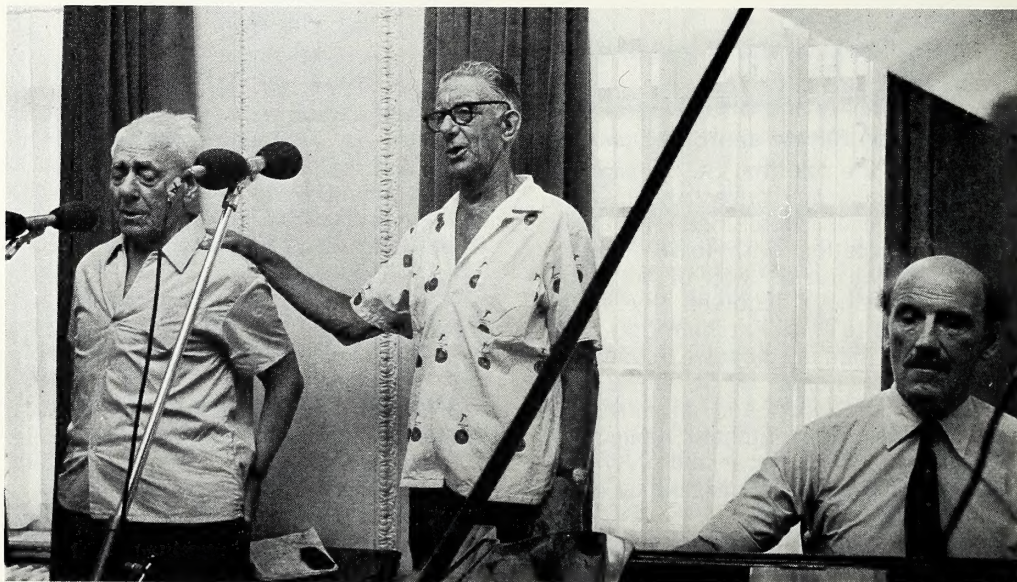
## A Recording for Remembrance

Not long ago I had the pleasure of visiting St. John's Lodge, where Lady Fraser had kindly agreed to allow her lounge to be turned into a recording studio for the day. Harry Wheeler, Bill Harris and Peter Spencer were the recording artistes with the help of Jimmy Wright and his brother-in-law Peter Bould, who is a TV recording engineer.

Harry and Bill, with Peter at the piano, were recording old army songs from the Boer War through to the Second World War. There are 55 choruses and the tape—a compact cassette—runs for 45 minutes. It is the result of a whole day's

singing for the recording, no mean effort on a hot Sunday, when one remembers that the three performers' ages total 211 years!

The idea of recording these songs originated at the Daedalus camp where Harry and Bill regularly lead the sing-songs and claim that throughout the week they seldom repeat a chorus. Now they have made a hundred copies of the original cassette—most of them already ordered. A few are still available from **Bill Harris, 31 Haydn Avenue, Purley, Surrey** at £2 each (including postage and packing). Profits to Daedalus Camp Fund, and please send cash with your order. They would be an appropriate purchase for Remembrance Day.





## Scars of the First World War

A fifty minute documentary programme on the Western Front during the First World War will be shown on Independent Television channels at 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th November. The programme, entitled *Scars* was written, produced and directed by Stephen Weeks for Harlech Television.

Among those appearing in *Scars* is our St. Dunstaner Frank O'Kelly. Frank travelled from his home in Polegate, Sussex, to Penhow Castle not far from Newport, Gwent, to record an interview for Stephen Weeks, who remembered interviewing him some eight years ago at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean. "The interview was about when and why I first joined the Army and when I went to France with the 2nd 60th Rifles. Then on to when I joined the Special Brigade. I was asked about the terrain and the names of places and towns," he told me, "I was proud give this interview, not for myself, but for the many comrades who did not return from this battle."

## The Man's Side of Radio

Talking to George Cole at the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society weekend at Ian Fraser House, I learned that he has been qualified for five years. In that comparatively short time, he has worked all the continents of the world.

"You have to have two way contact and submit six cards confirming this to the International Radio Relay Union. The six cards must be from amateurs in Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Europe and Oceania. Then you get your Worked All Continents Certificate," he told me.

There is also the West German Large Cities Certificate for working 43 large cities in Germany, which George also holds. Not long ago, he made contact with a blind French amateur in Versailles and through this may join the French Blind Radio Society.

99% of George's contacts are in Morse. "Any old fool can talk," says George, "The man who taught me said take Morse, it's the man's side of radio".

## Tate Gallery Mounts Touch Exhibition

The Tate Gallery, Millbank, London, announces an Exhibition of Sculpture for the Blind and Partially Sighted from 3rd November to 12th December. Admission is free, guide-dogs are welcome and a rubber textured path runs from the main door to the exhibition entrance. The path will also lead visitors through the exhibition in a fixed sequence. Around the base of each sculpture there is a textured mat to indicate the position of the exhibit. Members of the Tate's Education staff will be on hand to talk about the works.

Works from the Tate's collection which have been selected specially for this exhibition are by Laurence Burt, Edgar Degas, Jacob Epstein, Barbara Hepworth, Henri Laurens, Aristide Maillol and Henry Moore.

Further information available from the Education Department, Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG. Telephone 01-828 1212.

## A Poem for Remembrance

At this time of Remembrance I feel it appropriate to include this poem by Leonard Little, our Canadian St. Dunstaner.

### ARMISTICE DAY, 1918

And so at last to Mons and conflict's end,  
To listen, though not fully comprehend,  
As carillon proclaimed the bondage spent;  
To feel the sudden surge of joy long pent  
When folk began La Brabançonne to sing;  
To see in simple dignity the King,  
Acclaimed by friends and subjects gathered there,  
Walk unattended through the bannered square  
As if by sovereign's tread to purge a street  
Defiled by martial tramp of alien feet;  
To marvel at the unfamiliar sound  
Of peace, so strangely restful to the ear  
And healing to the mind grown sick with fear,  
A sound devoid of all the hateful round  
Of bullets, whiz-bangs, shrapnel, mortars, mines,  
The drone of planes and the distinctive whines  
And crashes of their bombs. All this is gone.  
Tomorrow no barrage will mar the dawn;  
Throughout the night no Verey lights will burn;  
Death will no longer lurk at every turn  
Nor stalk the far-flung battle lines for prey  
As he was wont to do until today,—  
And with what ghastly toll! Too few survive  
When war is keeping freedom's torch alive.



### Dancing Successes

Many congratulations to our St. Dunstaner Bernard Glover of Purbrook. He and his wife received a Bronze Medal and a Commended Mark for their section in modern sequence dancing last August Bank Holiday.

We also congratulate Barbara and Carol Madgwick, daughters of Frank Madgwick of Crawley, who have both just received the Gold Medal in Latin American and Jive dancing.

### Gardening Success

At Headstone Horticultural Society's Annual Show, Mrs. Rose Haskey, wife of our St. Dunstaner Henry Haskey of Harrow, won no less than ten prizes in various classes ranging from flower arrangement to cookery.

*Our St. Dunstaner, Margaret Stanway married John Bingham, a former member of staff in our Brighton Homes, on 30th September. This photograph shows a very happy couple signing the register. All their friends at St. Dunstan's will join in wishing them well.*



## CLUB NEWS

### THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during September were:

2nd September	1st	W. Miller
	2nd	C. Hancock M. Sheehan J. Majchrowicz
9th September	1st	M. Sheehan
	2nd	W. Miller C. Hancock
16th September	1st	C. Hancock
	2nd	M. Sheehan
23rd September	1st	M. Sheehan
	2nd	J. Majchrowicz
30th September	1st	W. Miller
	2nd	C. Hancock

### BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

We were very pleased to welcome Club members who were on holiday at Ian Fraser House to our dance on 11th September, including several of our blind girls. They also helped to make up a party of 35 who accepted an invitation to the R.A.F. Association in Brighton where we

were made most welcome at their Club on 17th September.

Our last social event of the Club's first year was a party on Wednesday, 29th September. After a few games of Bingo, a raffle and a lucky dip—with a present for everyone—58 members sat down to a delightful tea, followed by a singalong. What a lot of hidden talent was uncovered.

Our chairman, Ted Frearson, gave a vote of thanks to the Entertainment Committee and their wives for providing such a wonderful afternoon's enjoyment. Our next dance will be held on 6th November, so please make a note in your diaries.

The Entertainment Committee would like to thank all members for their support during the past year.

BOB OSBORNE

### Fishing Section

This section has had a most successful year. In all there have been ten fishing trips from 12th November, 1975 until the last in the 1975/76 financial year on 24th September, 1976. The Club anglers have been on four different boats with four different skippers and catches have been good and varied. The eventual winner of



the trophy for the heaviest fish was W. G. Phillips with a 15½lb. cod. Well done, Bill! I regret my absence from most of the trips owing to illness, but I sincerely hope that all members who have supported the activity have had an enjoyable season.

In answer to the interested reader from Worthing who suggested that the anglers should have the fish stuffed and displayed in the lounge at Ian Fraser House, he will be pleased to hear that they put their catches to much better use i.e. cleaned and placed in their deep freezers to be consumed by them at a later date!

**ALFRED DODGSON**

## BRIDGE SECTION

Our seventh Brighton individual was held on 4th September, with the following results:

A. Dodgson and W. Phillips	76
A. Smith and Partner	69
R. Evans and Partner	66
R. Fullard and F. Griffee	65
C. Walters and W. Lethbridge	64
Miss B. Simon and	
P. McCormack	49
J. Padley and Partner	42

On Saturday, 25th September, a team of twelve from Horsham Bridge Club visited us at Ian Fraser House. This was a great match, the St. Dunstan's team winning by over 2,000 points.

Our eight individual took place on 2nd October, results as follows:

A. Dodgson and W. Lethbridge	70
M. Clements and W. Phillips	63
J. Padley and R. Fullard	62
R. Bickley and Partner	61
F. Griffee and P. McCormack	54
A. Smith and C. Walters	50

**WALTER LETHBRIDGE**

## MIDLAND

Our September meeting, held on the 12th of the month, was yet another quiet one but nevertheless an enjoyable get together. The main item on the agenda was another of our Bring and Buy sales. Plenty of items were brought and plenty of purchases made, thus bringing a nice donation to our club funds to help toward the cost of other activities during the year. The tea for this meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec, and what a grand tea it was, another lovely home made one—and all this without the help

of Eddie, who was in hospital. We all gave her our usual thanks for this grand spread.

One of the main items in our diary each year is the outing to Stratford-upon-Avon, and this year we went there on Sunday, 3rd October—rather a wet day, I am sorry to say, but a thoroughly enjoyable one all the same. It was quite wet when we left Birmingham, but on arriving in Stratford at about 3.15 p.m. the rain stopped and the sky brightened up, so quite a number of our party went for a walk around the town.

Tea was arranged for us once more by the Women's Section of the Stratford branch of the Royal British Legion, and what a lovely tea it was—after hearing about food shortages owing to the drought and high food prices, they really did us proud. I think these ladies work harder to please us every year. After speeches and votes of thanks, the tables were cleared and we all gathered in the lounge of the Royal British Legion. The bar opened at 7 o'clock and the evening's entertainment began. A very good pianist came along and played for us and a charming lady sang for us, it was a very good evening. Our good friends at Stratford give us a wonderful welcome each year and make us thoroughly welcome.

These outings and get togethers are what is needed to make new friends and help to keep old ones. It is a great pity that more St. Dunstaners in the Birmingham area do not join our club and get around with us. Let us carry on showing people that we St. Dunstaners can certainly enjoy ourselves, and also show that St. Dunstan's is still going strong!

It was our pleasure to have with us as our guests on this outing the Branch Chairman, Vice Chairman and Finance Committee Chairman of the Austin branch, accompanied by their wives, and they very much enjoyed themselves.

We were very pleased to have Eddy Hordyniec back with us. He came out of hospital just after our last meeting and, although still in some pain having had his knee cap removed, he managed to come on the outing.

Please remember that our November meeting is on Sunday, 7th November, the first Sunday in the month.

**DOUG CASHMORE** *Secretary*



# St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society

by Tommy Gaygan

The Amateur Radio Weekend held at Ian Fraser House from 24th to 26th September started off very well on the Friday evening from 7 o'clock until 10 o'clock in committee (and they say that women can talk!).

Saturday began with a well attended meeting, and we were very pleased to welcome Miss Louise Farrow and Ray Hazan. We also welcomed Bill Shea's wife, Joan, and Jock Inness' wife Phoebe and daughter Catherine, who are certainly better looking than Jock!

We would like to congratulate Norman Maries on getting his call sign G4FHP.

In the afternoon we had a marvellous lecture on the morse code (C.W.) by Mr. Louis Varney, C.Eng., M.I.E.E., who also gave us some practical demonstrations and we hope that we will have the great pleasure of his company in the future. We would also like to thank Charles Bargery for bringing his two metre rig for the weekend and Bill Shea for bringing his K.W. 2,000 set down.

We were sorry that our President, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and Mrs. Garnett-Orme were unable to attend, and hope they will be able to do so on either the weekend of 28th-30th January or 4th-6th February, 1977.

Once more, the committee would like to thank everybody for attending and it would give us pleasure to welcome those interested in amateur radio.

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriages

Many congratulations to our St. Dunstaner, *Bernard Glover*, of Purbrook, who was married on 21st September, to Miss Delia Anne Burgess. We wish them every happiness.

*Mr. and Mrs. Arthur David* of St. Athan, Glamorgan, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Eileen, was married to Geoffrey Burnett on 9th October at St. Athan Church.

*Mrs. Clara Nolan*, widow of our St. Dunstaner *John Nolan*, is pleased to announce that her son, David John, was married to Linda Rindsland on 25th September at Acton Registry Office.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Sedgley* of Newquay, Cornwall, are pleased to announce that their grandson, Peter James Sedgley was married to Sylvia Jean Jelbert on 4th September at Mitchell Methodist Chapel.

*Mr. and Mrs. David Taylor* of Swindon, are pleased to announce that their grandson, David, was married to Lenore Osbourne on 3rd July at Purton.

### Ruby Weddings

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Butler* of Southampton, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 3rd October.

*Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Parish* of Littlehampton, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 10th October.

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitley* of Totton, Hampshire, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 17th October.

### Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas "Ginger" Scott* of Rottingdean, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 18th September.

### Diamond Wedding

Our warmest congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ward* of West Norwood, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 21st September. They received a congratulatory telegram from H.M. The Queen, and a telephone call from their son, Hugh, who lives in Australia.

### Grandchildren

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jones Atack* of Blackpool, on the birth of a grandson, Jason Michael, born on 14th August to their daughter, Linda, and her husband.



*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Carney* of Bourne-mouth, on the birth of their fourth grand-child, a girl, Anna Louise, born on 30th July to their daughter, Christine, and her husband Bill Stanbridge.

*Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Cashmore* of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, on the birth of a grandson, Richard Douglas, born on 29th August to their son John and his wife, Rita.

*Mr. and Mrs. Reg Craddock* of Warrington, on the birth of a grandson, Adam Dylan, born recently to their daughter, Denise, and her husband Lionel Ousdine.

*Mr. and Mrs. Tom Daborn* of Parra-combe, North Devon, on the birth of their first grandchild, a boy, James Edward John, born on 28th September to their son, John, and his wife, Maureen.

*Mr. and Mrs. William Faulkner*, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Victoria Ann, born recently to their daughter, Peggy, and her husband, Norman.

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lewis* of Eccles, on the birth of the sixth grandchild, Lee, on 6th October.

*Mr. and Mrs. John Perfect* of Plymouth, on the birth of a grandson, Andrew, born on 18th August to their son, David, and his wife.

### **Examination and Career Successes** **We warmly congratulate:**

Laura Bingham aged 7, daughter of *Mrs. Joan Bingham* and our late St. Dunstaner, *Mr. Dennis Bingham*, who passed her Primary Grade in Gymnastics at Shoreham on 13th June.

Simon Bloxham-Rose, son of our St. Dunstaner, *Mrs. E. Bloxham-Rose* and her husband, who has won a trophy and a book token for English speaking at King's School, Taunton.

George Lear, younger son of *Mr. and Mrs. William Lear* of Plymouth, Devon, who has been awarded the plaque for the best service in Devon and Cornwall by the Service Guild of the Ford Motor Company, who run this competition for all their service stations throughout Great Britain. George has been invited to Palma to take part in the awards for the whole country and now stands a chance of the National prize.

Martin White, son of *Mr. and Mrs. William White* of Fordingbridge, who has passed his Higher National Certificate in Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

## **Deaths**

### **We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Mr. Stanley Joseph Fowler* of Beeston, whose wife, Maisie, died on 5th October.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Hermitage* of Northfleet, Kent, whose daughter, Mrs. Margaret Kruth, died on 10th August at the age of 45.

*Mr. Frank Heyes* of St. Helen's, Lancashire, whose wife, Alice, died on 19th September.

*Mr. Winston Holmes* of Hove, whose wife, Catherine, died on 13th April. Mr. Holmes would particularly like to thank all his friends at St. Dunstons for their kind letters.

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## **In Memory**

**It is with great regret we have to record the death of the following St. Dunstaner and we offer our deepest sympathy to his widow, family and friends.**

### **William Phillip Delaney Home Guard**

William Phillip "Jim" Delaney of Bridgwater, died in hospital on 4th October, aged 62.

From April 1940 until March 1943, Mr. Delaney served as a C./Sgt. Instructor in the Home Guard and was injured by the explosion of an anti-tank grenade while on duty.

He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1943 and, after initial training, studied Physiotherapy. He qualified in 1946 and took up an appointment at Taunton Hospital, during which period he built up a busy private practice. In 1954 Mr. Delaney joined the staff at Bridgwater Hospital, where he became Head of the Department.

In earlier years, Mr. Delaney was interested in the Scout movement, playing the piano and drums in the Scouts' Band. Despite his busy private practice and responsible hospital appointment, our St. Dunstaner had many outside interests. With his wife, he enjoyed a busy social life, occasionally lectured on the work of St. Dunstan's, was a keen Rugby supporter and took a great interest in his garden.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lucie Celia Delaney, a daughter, Jean, and grandchildren.

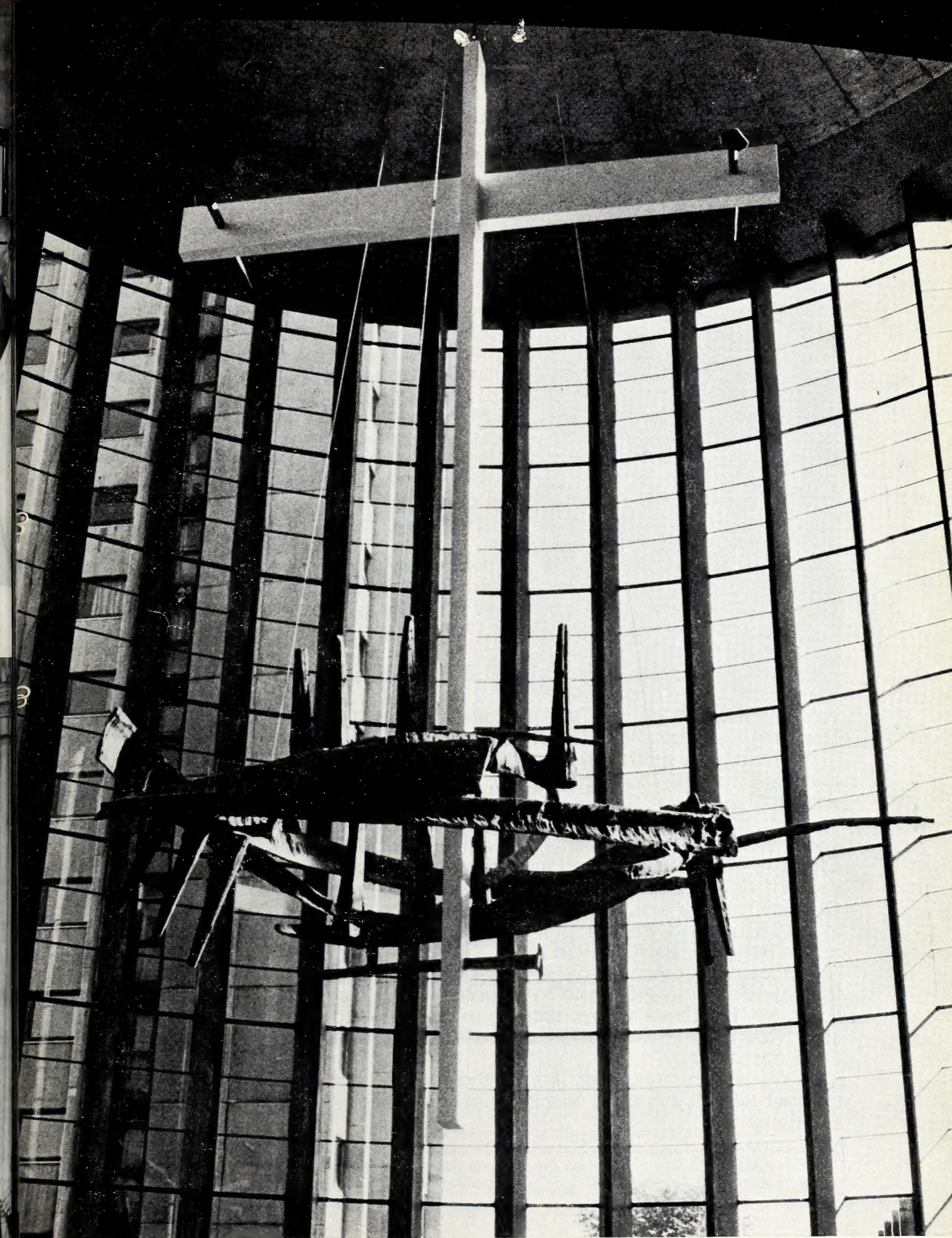




*General views of the dedication service conducted by the Very Reverend The Dean of Westminster, Dr. Edward Carpenter.*







**St Dunstons Review December**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 680

DECEMBER 1976

10p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman

We approach the end of another year of great activity both by St. Dunstaners and the organisation itself. Whilst St. Dunstaners in employment have contributed to the economic life of the country in many different ways, our Homes in Brighton have been kept busy with men and women on holiday or convalescence, with the training of new St. Dunstaners – some, unhappily, from Northern Ireland – with the care of those in permanent residence, and with a number of special conferences and reunions.

Our Headquarters staff in Old Marylebone Road have been active in all departments looking after the interests and well-being of St. Dunstaners and their families, organising the eleven regional reunions which we hold annually, and many other matters such as co-operating with our numerous friends outside who hold special events on our behalf. Among these, I think of the mountain climb in North Wales and the camps organised at H.M.S. Daedalus and at Warminster.

My wife joins me in wishing a very happy Christmas and New Year to all St. Dunstaners and their wives and families at home and overseas, St. Dunstaners' widows, our Council and staff, our voluntary helpers everywhere and those good friends who serve St. Dunstan's in so many different ways.

### **The Rev. F. Darrell Bunt, C.B., O.B.E., M.A.**

The Council of St. Dunstan's, and I personally, are very sorry to lose the valuable help which we have had over the past twenty-five years from Mr. Darrell Bunt, who resigned in October.

During this quarter century, Mr. Bunt represented both the Royal Navy and the Church on our Council and, in his regular attendance, gave us much wise counsel.

Mr. Bunt studied theology at St. Chad's College, Durham and, after holding several appointments in England, he joined the Royal Navy as a Chaplain in 1930. He served as Padre in several ships at sea and also had a spell of duty ashore at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth as Assistant Chaplain of the Fleet, at H.M.S. Excellent, the Portsmouth Gunnery School, in H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, and finally as Chaplain of the Fleet before he retired from the Royal Navy in 1960.

Presiding at many of our regional Reunions during the twenty-five years, from Blackpool in the North to Brighton in the South and Plymouth in the West, Mr. Bunt was always untiring in his efforts to meet all St. Dunstaners at the Reunion and their wives, and he has himself said how much he enjoyed these occasions.

We will certainly miss him on the Council, and I know St. Dunstaners everywhere will join us in wishing him a very happy retirement with his wife and daughter.

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**COVER PICTURE:** *One of the many breathtaking contemporary designs in Coventry Cathedral visited by women St. Dunstaners during their Reunion (see centre pages).*



## MR. G. P. OWENS

"Service" is a good old-fashioned word with an unselfish sound and a great deal of value in its meaning and it is one which comes to mind when one thinks of Pat Owens.

From boyhood until he was grievously wounded in 1945, he served in the Army and Police Force and then the Army again, with a fine record of achievement and promotion, and now he has retired after nearly thirty years of dedicated work as our Industrial Superintendent. The Council appreciates the responsibility he has carried and the problems he has faced on our behalf in the field of industrial employment. The staff at Headquarters and Brighton—and especially in his own happy Department—know his worth as a colleague, and most of all many of his fellow St. Dunstaners have benefited greatly from his wide knowledge, kindness and patience.

We are deeply grateful to Pat Owens for his service to St. Dunstan's and we wish him and his wife every possible happiness in their retirement.



*Mr. Garnett-Orme makes the presentation to Pat Owens.*

*Jon Garnett-Orme*

CHAIRMAN

## Message from Lady Fraser

As I am not sending Christmas cards, I am asking the Editor to print a message from me to all St. Dunstaners and their families.

I send my love and every good wish for a Happy Christmas and New Year and shall be thinking of you all.

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## CHESS TEACH-IN

A Chess Teach-In will be held at Ian Fraser House over the weekend 11th/13th February next when instruction will be available to all. Applications for accommodation should be made to Miss Bridger at Headquarters.

## CHESSMEN

Men's Supplies wish to apologise for delays in supplying chess sets, due to production difficulties at the R.N.I.B. Mrs. Lefrere would be very grateful if anyone who has a set of chessmen which they no longer require would please send it to her.



# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 1976

by Robert and Joyce Pringle

Sunday, November 14th, 1976, dawned on a cold, crisp day but it was warm in the sun. There had been a hard frost during the night but the sun came out to dry the ice crystals off the roofs.

Those of us attending the service at the Cenotaph met at Headquarters, where we were greeted by Mr. E. V. Stevens and given cups of tea by Ian and Nancy Dickson. We went by coach to Wellington Barracks, where we formed up and marched to the Cenotaph. The march and service went off without incident and we were complimented afterwards on the steadiness of the marching and the straightness of our ranks.

We were joined by Alex Nesbitt of Teignmouth, making his first visit to the Cenotaph as was Mr. Stubbs from Norwich. St. Dunstaners who were guinea pigs may have met Mr. Nesbitt at East Grinstead.

We went on to the Great Western Royal Hotel, where we were greeted by Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme. Among many other friends gathered here, we managed to get a word with Kath Riley of Daedalus fame, Ben Mills and Wiggy Bennett were also there.

After luncheon, the Chairman gave us the loyal toast and addressed us, saying "Remembrance Day consists of plain, simple things. We wear poppies, which are beautifully made by some of our fellow ex-Servicemen and women working with the Royal British Legion, and we lay

wreaths of them at War Memorials at city centres and village greens. All over the country men and women meet to march, to listen to noble words, to sing and pray together, and perhaps above all to stand in silence and remember. We have our own thoughts of loved ones and we share a common memory of countless ranks of people quite unknown to us but for ever valued by us for the gift of their service to our country. Today we remember and are thankful.

"As usual we have a good representative contingent from St. Dunstan's on parade and, with wives and escorts, we now number some 92. I welcome you all and thank you for coming from all over the country—in fact as far afield as Edinburgh and Shepherd's Bush!

Unfortunately, Lady Fraser cannot be with us today, but we know her thoughts have been with us this morning and she sends you all her love and best wishes.

On behalf of us all I thank Mr. Wills and Miss Bridger for today's general organisation and Mr. Stevens, and all those who helped us on the parade, as well as the hotel staff for giving us this excellent lunch."

Mr. Stevens then introduced Tom Hart, who proposed the vote of thanks. Other St. Dunstaners who spoke were Charlie Hancock, Bob Young and Randall Williams, and Bill Harris spoke on behalf of the escorts.

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## ST. DUNSTAN'S DAY, 1976

We would like to remind our readers that Sunday, 12th December, has been chosen as St. Dunstan's Day for 1976. Mr. Garnett-Orme gave us the date in his Message from the Chairman, published in the October *Review*, in the course of which he wrote the following words: "May St. Dunstan's Day, 1976, unite us all in thankful memory of the lives of our two great leaders."

Mr. Garnett-Orme suggests that, in addition to Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, we should remember all those St. Dunstaners who have passed on.

## MR. W. RAYNER

Mr. W. Rayner, who was for many years responsible for St. Dunstan's shopkeepers and subsequently has been in charge of the Sales Department, has assumed the additional responsibilities previously undertaken by Mr. Owens.

## MESSAGE FROM MISS PAT COLLINS

As I shall not be sending Christmas Cards this year the editor has very kindly allowed me space in which to wish all my St. Dunstaners friends a very happy Christmas. My thoughts are with you.



## MR. ALEXANDER STERNO

*The Review offers sincere apologies to his family and to our readers for certain inaccuracies in the obituary of our St. Dunstaner, Alexander Sterno, which we published in August. We are, therefore, glad to publish the undermentioned correction and other particulars sent to us by Mr. H. F. A. Sterno:*

Firstly, and perhaps the most important, is that he never in his life lived in Birmingham! He only entered firstly, the Home of Thomas Pocklington, and was later admitted to Rubery Hill Hospital where he remained until the time of his death.

He joined St. Dunstan's in 1916 where he was trained as a boot and shoe repairer, learned mat-making, string-bag and hammock making, and passed both his Braille and typewriting tests with flying colours. He was presented with a gold watch-chain by Sir Arthur Pearson for the former, and a typewriter for the latter. He left St. Dunstan's late 1917, or early 1918, and started his business of boot-repairing and mat-making in Bath, in which city he lived for 41 years. During this time, he not only maintained a very sound business, which expanded at one time to two branch shops, but also reared a family of two sons.

In addition to his highly successful boot and shoe repairing business, he also received and executed orders for door mats (some with letters and diamonds), Sennit mats—and, among his proudest achievements, was to have supplied the Theatre Royal, Bath, and the Grand Pump Room, Bath, with large entrance/foyer mats. His clientele in all branches of his work included many City dignitaries, and his pride in his work knew no bounds, never accepting defeat.

His life, however, was not without its tragedies, losing a son and three wives during his lifetime, and suffering bombing during the Bath blitz.

He eventually retired, as recorded in the *Review*, at the age of 69 in 1958, and went to live in Southampton with his third wife but, within four and a half years she died, and after a very short time at St. Dunstan's, he came to live with us in Bath. We moved to Bishop's Cleeve in 1966 as a result of my promotion within my firm.

## MR. G. P. OWENS WRITES:

May I write a few lines on my retirement to my fellow St. Dunstaners whom I have got to know so well during my thirty years service at Headquarters.

Many of us first met at the Stoke Mandeville Hospital and share memories of those days; there we were presented with a Brailled watch and became St. Dunstaners. Many were before us, others yet to come.

Being privileged to join the staff, I knew that for me each St. Dunstaner would be more vital than the establishment. But then, growing up together over the years, the one became synonymous with the other. At this juncture, may I pay a tribute to staff at all levels for their dedicated and loyal service to us all, whatever our difficulties.

If I have a regret, it is that I have not been able to meet and know every St. Dunstaner personally.

The department in which I served was ostensibly that of Employment. In practice this became a complete involvement with those others concerned in the business of daily living. You have all never ceased to both amaze and inspire me—for, regardless of handicap, you win through.

So many of you have contributed to a farewell present, I learn; may I acknowledge your generosity in next month's issue, when the presentation form will have been decided.

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The remainder of the *In Memory* account is correct, except that never in his life was my father at all interested in gardening! It is true that our garden, here in Bishop's Cleeve, is like a "miniature park" but all the credit for this must go to my wife, Nina, who loves her garden.

In conclusion, I would most earnestly add that my dear father, who indeed was a most devoted father and very proud of the whole of his family, was also a most devoted and faithful St. Dunstaner, who was continually singing the praises of that organisation, and who looked forward to his many visits to Ovingdean and the local Reunions to meet up with his old comrades and chat about old times. Since living with us, my wife acted as his escort at the local Reunions every time, an enjoyable activity which she will now miss terribly.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**John Christopher Belton** of Teignmouth, South Devon, who joined St. Dunstan's in October. He served in two World Wars—as a Deck Hand in the R.N.R. during the First World War and as Leading Seaman R.N. with the River Patrol during the Second World War. In civilian life, our new St. Dunstaner was a fisherman until his retirement at the age of 67. He is married and has three grown up children.

**Leslie Alfred Bruton** of Birmingham, who joined St. Dunstan's in November. He was commissioned and served in the

6th Worcesters throughout the First World War, and later was an engineer until his retirement. He is married with one son.

**Edgar William Bull** of Horsham, who joined St. Dunstan's in November. He served as a C/Sgt. in the Royal Marines. He was a regular, who served five years in Malta and served from 1929 until his discharge in 1945. Mr. Bull is employed as an off-licence manager for a well-known brewery. He is married with two grown up daughters.

**Frederick William Clay** of Colchester, joined St. Dunstan's in October. Mr. Clay served with the Durham County Light Infantry in the Second World War and is married with one grown up son.

**Alfred Geoffrey Jacobs** of Chelmsford, Essex, who joined St. Dunstan's in October. He served as a Private with the Royal Berkshire Regiment from 1939 until December 1947, and was wounded by a sniper's bullet in 1945. Mr. Jacobs is employed as a County Council audio typist.

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### ORANGE BADGE SCHEME by Mr. W. C. Weisblatt, LL.B., Legal Officer

This scheme, first mentioned in the May, 1975 *Review*, designed to help the blind and disabled to have better access to town centres was authorised by the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) Regulations 1975 which altered and improved the scheme originally introduced in 1971 under the provisions of Section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970.

The benefits provided by the scheme are as follows:

- (a) Disabled drivers and passengers who display the orange badge on their vehicles are allowed to park for indefinite periods at places where time limits apply, and without payment at parking meters.
- (b) Badge holders are allowed to park for up to two hours on yellow lines, except where there is a ban on loading or unloading in force or in a bus lane.

Restrictions may apply where, for ex-

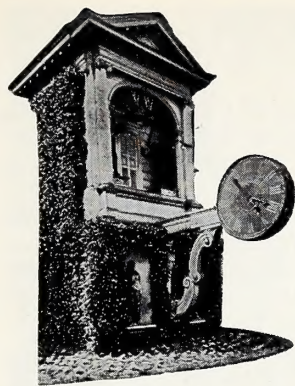
ample, road works are in progress or other special traffic conditions exist. Examples of these might be near a football ground on the day of a match or on the route of a procession. Furthermore, police officers and traffic wardens have special powers to request the removal of a vehicle which they consider likely to cause danger or an obstruction and this applies to badge holders as well as other motorists.

It is essential that the orange badge should be clearly displayed on the windscreen (and preferably on the rear window as well) and that the badge holder should be a passenger in the car when advantage is taken of these parking concessions.

Subject to the points made above, there are no restrictions on the purpose for which the vehicle is used and it is perfectly proper for use to be made of the orange badge when on a shopping expedition or on a social visit.

Visitors to Headquarters are warned that these concessions do not apply in most parts of Central London, although the Inner London Boroughs operate their own schemes for disabled people who live or work in their areas.





# IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

## Thirty Years' Service

**Bob Forster**, of Leeds, has retired from his work as telephonist at Barclays Bank, Leeds headquarters, after thirty years' service. Bob, who is 56, is retiring early because of ill-health.

Presentations were made on Thursday, 30th September, in the Board Room when Bob received a stereo-record player and a cassette recorder, together with some classical L.P. records. His wife, Joy, who shared the occasion with him, received a bouquet.

After the speeches Bob was left in no doubt how much he has been appreciated in his work on the switchboard. "I shall miss very much the hundreds of people I have come to know by their voices", he said.

## Academic Tradition

**Tommy Ap Rhys'** grandson, Christopher, has been accepted at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he will read for a Science degree. He is following what has become a family tradition. Tommy himself graduated at Bangor, obtaining

his Arts Degree with first class honours after he had lost his sight in the First World War. His eldest daughter, Elizabeth, married and now teaching French at a comprehensive school in Abergavenny, was at Somerville College, Oxford, where she obtained the M.A. degree, and she has a son, Richard, at Aberystwyth and daughters Ann at Bradford and Helen at Reading. Ceridwen, Christopher's mother, a social worker, graduated at Bangor.

His son, Tommy, graduated at Bangor and took his Ph.D. at John Hopkins University, Baltimore. Tommy now works in the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington. His eldest daughter, Colette, took a degree in Agricultural Chemistry at Bangor, and now works for the University of Maryland. His second daughter, Anne, is studying law at Maryland—all of which leaves 16 years old Elaine, the youngest of the Ap Rhys family, something to live up to!

## Guide Dog Speaker

Congratulations to **Tom Bice**, who is now a registered lecturer for the Guide Dogs Association.

## BRIDGE NOTES

The last Individuals match of 1976 was played in the London Club Rooms on Saturday, 6th November, and the results were as follows:

R. Armstrong and W. Miller	67
F. Dickerson and B. Allen	66
P. Nuyens and J. Lynch	64
B. Evans and J. Majchrowicz	59
L. Douglass and H. Meleson	53

Therefore, the winner of the Gover Cup for 1976 is Mr. Bill Allen. The full year results (best five games from nine) are:

B. Allen	368
R. Armstrong	346
B. Evans	344
L. Douglass	341
F. Dickerson	336
J. Lynch	334
Miss V. Kemmish	331
P. Nuyens	329
H. Meleson	324
W. Miller	323
J. Majchrowicz	305
R. Goding	303



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From: Alf Bradley, Northwood Hills, Middlesex**

Is there room for just one more before the ghost train puffs its way quietly into the waste paper basket?

I believe that the subject of sighting apparitions is just the tiniest tip of a much deeper dimension. Human society and culture the world over has never been completely secular. This surely is because the personality of man is threefold—body, soul and spirit. In many walks of life people testify to this: in conversation sometimes, when one wants to speak of things which are outside human control and, by no means least, in entertainments. We have our phantoms, our invisible men, our draculas, and, for at least a decade, we've been bombarded by various things from Mars, and much else all in the name of science fiction.

Man reaches out and responds to this realm, but he has the inbuilt bias always to make for the unnatural instead of the supernatural. We are happy to discuss and argue about the foggy nightie which disappeared through the garden wall but, when one brings up the issues of truthfulness and belief, might we not look away from this blind spot to something more authoritative?

The great hand book itself declares that we see through a glass darkly, but at least *we do see!* From end to end, it contains information and examples of those who saw visions, those who supposed that they saw a ghost, those who saw portents and signs and wonders. The whole structure of human kind would seem to be dependent on exercising itself in these things for its completeness. Also it tells of two camps in conflict among the principalities and powers, one for eternal profit, the other for loss.

Surely it is *intended* that we feel something, or see something, or can communicate. To be too far away is to have the tiny, rusty clockwork toy, when infinite power is available. All we see is the player going for the early bath, instead of seeing the match and knowing who is playing and what the score is, or what the trophy is. I'm quite prepared to believe that there is

a sort of 'overspill' of these powers of the air, and that folks do see and hear something, but it's all a bit meaningless unless you get involved.

One comforting thought is that when you consult the handbook, if you find you are going in the wrong direction, according to the timetable, you can still change trains. There's no such thing as a non-traveller. If mystical things alarm you, don't be freight, join the crew.

**From: Leslie Webber, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire**

I feel that the following incident may amuse your readers. The five year old son of one of my physiotherapist colleagues has, for some time, been very concerned about my not being able to see. A short time ago, he came in during the morning with his mother and stood by me at the desk. Very seriously he said to me "What did happen to your eye?". I replied that my injuries were caused by a bomb during the war. After much thought, he turned to me again and enquired "Were you a Goody or a Baddy?" I replied that I hoped I was a Goody, but that, at least, I was on our side.

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## MEMORIAL SERVICE JOE SWALES, M.B.E., M.C.

Joe Swales' many friends will like to know that the Rotary Club of Middlesbrough held a Service of Remembrance for him on the 2nd November. The announcement said that this was 'at the request of a great many friends and associates' and this was confirmed by the large crowd present at the Avenue Methodist Church. St. Dunstaner Alan Milne was prevented from attending by his teaching duties at Durham University, but his wife kindly drove over and represented everyone at St. Dunstan's.

Anita Milne writes: "It was a simple and moving Service. I shall always remember the wide range of people from the many spheres in which Joe was active. The address was given by an old family friend who stressed the wonderful contribution Joe had made to the life of the community."





*This photograph of St. Dunstan, Raymond Hazan, using the Optacon illustrated Richard Dufton's paper and was featured on St. Dunstan's stand at Naidex '76.*

## **NAIDEX '76**

Richard Dufton, St. Dunstan's Director of Research, presented a paper on Technical and Sensory Aids for Employment for the Blind at the National Aids for the Disabled Conference on 11th November.

In the exhibition associated with the conference, Naidex '76, which ran from 9th to 12th November, St. Dunstan's stand showed some of modern technology's efforts to provide substitutes for sight.

Exhibits included the Talking Calculator, a normal pocket calculator which, as well as displaying its numerals visually, speaks its answers using a vocabulary of twenty-four numerals and words; the Optacon reading device; the Binaural Sensor, or sonic spectacles, and an Audio-comparator.

Other exhibits demonstrated the general work of the organisation for the rehabilitation and welfare of St. Dunstaners, including those with handicaps additional to blindness.

Stand personnel during the five days of the exhibition were Mrs. Lilian Brown, David Castleton, Norman French and Len Wiggins of St. Dunstan's staff and John Ford of Sensory Aid Systems.

## **ST. DUNSTAN'S BRIDGE CLUB**

The Annual Congress will take place at Ian Fraser House from 5th to 7th February, 1977. Will those interested please contact Miss E. M. Bridger at Headquarters who will be making the necessary bookings for the weekend. Further details will be circulated to those who have notified us of their wish to take part.

## **MRS. SAVILLE**

We have heard from Leonard Howell of the death, on October 10th at the age of 88, of Mrs. Saville. Many First World War St. Dunstaners, who remember her as a Braille teacher during 1916-17, will be very sorry to hear this.





*Walter Thornton with the Degas dancer.*

## Blind Date at the Tate

by Walter Thornton

There was a young barmaid of Sale,  
On her breasts had the prices of ale,  
For the sake of the blind,  
She had her behind,  
With the same information in Braille.

Hardly the sort of thing to connect with an exhibition at the world-famous Tate Gallery! Hardly the sort of thing for 'St. Dunstan's *Review*' for that matter! But this slightly dubious limerick illustrates the vital fact that the hands are the eyes of the blind. Recognition of this is the *raison d'être* of the Exhibition of Sculpture for the Blind, mounted at the Tate Gallery, Millbank, from the 3rd November to 12th December.

Although the Tate Gallery has for some years met requests from blind individuals and groups for special visiting arrangements, this is the first time that a major exhibition of this kind has been staged in this country. The decision to hold it was as brave as it was unique. It cut right across the long tradition of "Do Not Touch", whilst taking full account of the Gallery's duty to conserve the nation's

treasures. It recognised the need to protect the exhibits and those handling them, from possible damage.

The exhibition is made up of some twenty items, valued at about £350,000. The organisers describe the venture as an attempt to make the facilities of the Tate available to a wider public. In quite different terms, one could say that they have spared no effort to achieve, in Sir Arthur Pearson's phrase, "Victory over Blindness".

Every care has been taken to give the blind visitor the greatest possible capacity to appreciate the exhibition without having to rely on others, which must surely be unique in such an exhibition. Meticulous preparation has gone into the literature, available in Braille and in ink-print, which comprises: a catalogue, with excellent explanatory notes by Terry Measham, the assistant keeper; directions from the main London termini to the Tate; a map indicating the facilities of the Gallery and the route from the entrance to the exhibition; coffee bar menu, with prices; informative labels in front of each sculpture. In addition, the route to the



exhibition from the entrance is indicated by a rubber pathway, which changes to a mat before each exhibit.

Almost all the sculptures are by people whose names are household words. They have been arranged in a progression from the more naturalistic to the more abstract. Almost all are from the permanent collection, but some special items have been loaned by Henry Moore, who has taken a particularly active interest in the venture, supporting his own view that sculptures are made to be handled.

There is a sitting area preceding the exhibition, where the catalogue can be studied. Visitors are requested to remove rings and other jewellery before handling the sculptures. To protect the latter against the corrosive effects of perspiration, facilities are provided for the washing of hands and subsequent dusting with talcum powder. The lighting is subdued in order to encourage all, sighted and blind alike, to appreciate the sculptures by feeling them.

So much for the major nuts and bolts of an exhibition which has been planned as carefully as a military operation. What of the reactions of those for whom the exhibition is intended? If the writer's experience is any criterion, the organisers have every reason for complete satisfaction.

This visit to the Tate was a very different matter from all those other museums and art galleries visited since the war. One continued these visits, even though each was accompanied by a strong sense of frustration and inadequacy. With all due respect to the sighted guides who were assiduous and persevering in their verbal commentary, each visit has been rather like picking up a few crumbs from the rich man's table. By contrast, the visit to the Tate was a complete and varied experience. It was not a matter of having to make do with a few crumbs. It was the enjoyment of a completely unrestricted banquet.

The first exhibit, the aperitif if you like, was a lifesize female nude, a goddess, *Venus Wearing a Necklace*, by Aristide Maillol. The "hors d'oeuvres" could be regarded as being made up of the four small bronzes by Edgar Degas, without wishing to pursue the analogy of the feast any further, Jacob Epstein's *Female*

*Figure* and Barbara Hepworth's *Menhirs* were as smooth to the touch as any long-matured port to the palate.

The experience of exploring each sculpture carefully and minutely, appreciating the different textures, and sensing the skill with which each sculpture has released the form from within the material,—as, for example, in the granular texture of Henry Moore's elemental earth mother *Recumbent Figure*—was not only a joy in itself, but remains as a continuing joy. Happily, the vividness of the impression resulting from the careful feeling of the sculptures persists. The mental pictures which the experience conjured up still "float upon the inward eye". The elegance and balance of Degas' *Dancer Putting on her Stocking*; the liquid lines of Henry Moore's *Composition*; the arithmetical lines of Malcolm Hughes' specially commissioned *Abstract*; they stay in the mind, as do the other exhibits in this pioneering project for the blind and partially sighted, which will assuredly lead to others—and to other developments.

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## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 531*

**When the Gates Shut**

by Joanna Kelly

*Read by Denise Asserson*

*Reading Time 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours*

The writer was the Governor of Holloway for many years, and this is a closely-detailed record of life, for inmates and staff, in a closed prison.

It is by definition a somewhat sombre book, dealing as it does with human beings deprived of liberty, but there are one or two light touches here and there.

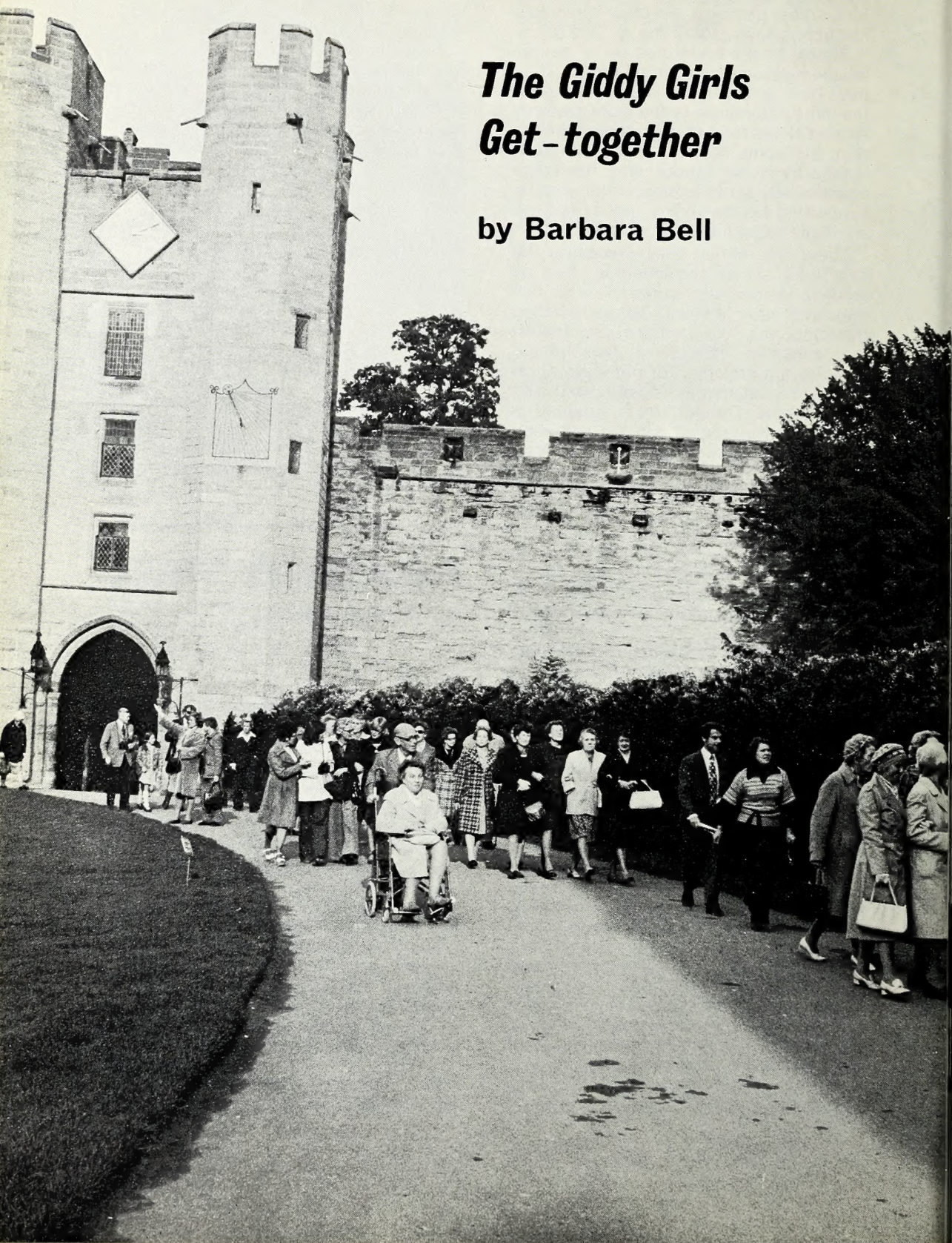
There are some surprises too—like the fact that vegetarians are catered for, and the prison population has an official food-taster—the Governor!

This will certainly be a minority choice among readers, but if you are curious to learn how *this* other half lives, it will make interesting reading—and explode quite a few widely held misconceptions.



# ***The Giddy Girls Get-together***

**by Barbara Bell**





When we St. Dunstan's girls converged on the Manor Hotel, Meriden, Warwickshire on Friday, October 15th for our Reunion, we wondered what the weekend had in store for us. After having three previous meetings of this kind we should have known, that St. Dunstan's would come up trumps, as always, with a weekend of excellent wining, dining and interesting expeditions. The tone of the proceedings was set by the afternoon tea we had in the Arden Room, which was at our disposal for the whole weekend—delectable sandwiches, gorgeous gateaux and succulent eclairs. I didn't allow myself to indulge too freely, however, with dinner in view in only two hours' time. This we had informally in the restaurant with Mr. Wills and the welfare staff, Miss Mosley, Miss Lord, Miss Newbold and Miss Meyer, who were with us for the whole weekend, arranging everything for our convenience and pleasure. During the evening Eileen Williams played a recording she had made of the presentation we had made to Mrs. Dolly Highcock when, to our great regret, she left Wing 2 at Ovingdean. After a very pleasant evening spent in talking and drinking a little, of course, and serenaded later on by Beryl and Gwen, as we had hoped, we retired to our luxurious rooms to prepare for the next day's activities.

On Saturday morning after breakfast, we boarded the coach and were off and

away to Coventry Cathedral for a guided tour round that unique building. Our guide gave us a talk first and after that we wandered round, looking at and, in some cases, touching the unusual features of this modern, industrial church, the main theme of which is the triumph over conflict. We were able to get a first-rate idea of the lay-out of the building as the Cathedral authorities provided raised ground-plans of the whole area, especially for blind people to feel. Fortunately, it was a bright morning and the light was shining through the glowing colours of the five remarkable stained glass windows on the eastern side, reflected on the floor that was black marble but is now grey through the passage of countless thousands of feet since it was laid. Later, when the sun had moved round, it would shine in through the matching stained glass windows on the west side of the nave.

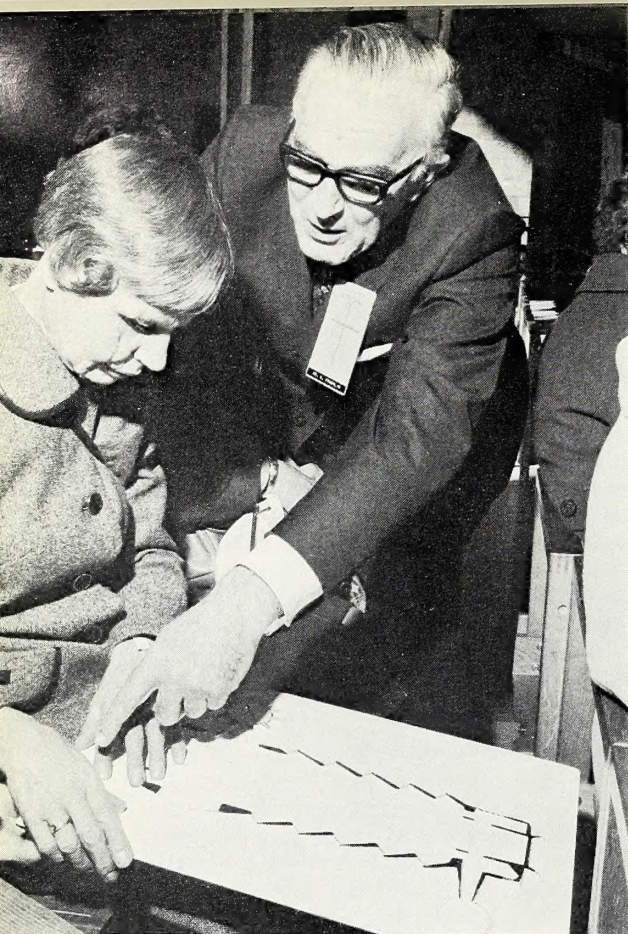
### Indefatigable Escorts

Our guide was always with us to answer questions, and we kept our indefatigable escorts busy describing the many interesting, symbolic features of this most unusual Cathedral. I am jolly lucky in that the friend who goes with me on these occasions is an excellent commentator and has earned herself the nickname of the second "Audrey Russell". Before walking along the road to the De Vere Hotel for lunch, we

*The girls at Warwick Castle.*







*The Coventry Cathedral guide, Mr. D. Franklin, indicates a point of interest to Barbara Bell on the tactile plan.*

just had time to visit the remains of the old Cathedral, facing east and west across the south end of the new one. Here I felt more of the peaceful, aloof reverence which we expect in our old Cathedrals than in the new one we had just left, where the atmosphere was more full of life and activity and where one didn't feel the need to speak in an undertone. Rather to my surprise, I found this visit to Coventry Cathedral the most inspiring and stimulating of the whole weekend.

After an excellent lunch, we boarded the coach again en route for Warwick Castle, closely followed by the *Review* camera in the expert hands of Mr. David Castleton whom we are always delighted to have with us. On arrival at the Castle, we tramped through the State apartments renewing our acquaintance with many historical facts and learning many new ones. In the course of our tour our guide



*Eileen Williams feels one of the figures etched in the glass screen at the entrance to Coventry Cathedral.*

explained the derivations of three terms in common usage in our everyday language, which will now be built into my store of general knowledge for evermore. The first on was "to die in harness" which arose from the fact that the term for a suit of armour was a "harness". Secondly, when he was describing some leather wine containers to us, he said they each held eight pints and if one drank more than that one had had one or more "over the eight". The third was "a good Guy" arising from the fact that one of the Earls of Warwick was a particularly fine man and became known as "the good Guy", which was his name.

I had three regrets about this visit. Firstly, I did not realise until later that it was possible to feel a wood carving by Grinling Gibbons in the last room we went into as some did; secondly, I would have liked to visit the torture chamber as I



rather fancied handling a thumb screw and examining the rack, though I had no desire to try it out; and, thirdly, I did want to record a peacock. However, the only one we saw was a very mangy-looking bird in the middle of the moult and not feeling at all communicative. He did not even drop the one tail feather he had left for me to bring home as a memento of my trip round Warwick Castle. After this, we had tea before driving back to the hotel to relax before changing for the dinner dance and cabaret in the evening. This provided us with another splendid meal and some good dancing for those who wished to indulge their liking for this form of activity. Later in the evening, our ears were assaulted by the over-amplified voice of a lady who treated us to a selection of pop songs which many people enjoyed, I'm sure.

### Blenheim Palace

On the second day of our tightly-packed schedule, we set off for Woodstock and Blenheim Palace. As this was a longer drive, we arrived at Woodstock in time for lunch at the Punch Bowl where we were joined by Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme, who gave us the pleasure of their company for the rest of the day. Before lunch, Beryl and her friend, and I with mine, just had time to nip round the corner to the famous and very old and picturesque Bear Hotel for a quick one. After lunch we drove to the Palace for yet another interest-packed tour. Here I found another carving by Grinling Gibbons, in stone, but quite out of reach, thirty feet high up on the wall of the Great Hall.

Our guide was charming and most helpful, in that she spoke very clearly and slowly for the benefit of those who were recording her commentary. With our redoubtable escorts explaining things of interest as we went, we toured the spectacular Great Hall Dining-room and Long Library with the other state apartments. I felt very sympathetic towards the four old retainers who kept it all so spotlessly clean especially when it came to dusting the books in the very Long Library, which were only protected by open metal grills. We had time, after the tour, to visit the souvenir shop and take a look at the impressive water gardens which were laid out rather like those of Versailles. Pools,



*Elsie Aldred discovers one of the many modern works of art in Coventry Cathedral.*

*Getting to know a Warwick Castle peacock.*







*In the impressive Chapel of Christ the Servant in Coventry Cathedral.*

bounded by clipped box hedges, obviously with fountains which were not playing, arranged in terraces forming the shape of the Fleur-de-Lys. This was, after all, the present of a grateful nation to the Duke of Marlborough after his victory at the Battle of Blenheim. After tea at the Punch Bowl, we drove back to Meriden to dress for our own formal reception and dinner party.

Refreshed and clad in our glad-rags, we were received by Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme and consumed yet another very superior meal after which, in his speech, Mr. Garnett-Orme said some very flattering and complimentary things about us which did our morale a whole lot of good. He gave us messages of good wishes from Lady Fraser, Matron Blackford, Thelma, Jane, Una and Miss Farrow, and mentioned the fact that he had seen several of us at the service of dedication in Westminster Abbey the previous Thursday.

We were glad to have with us for dinner that night Mrs. Pickford, formerly Miss Helen Clarry who was a V.A.D. at Church Stretton and in London during the war

and now lives near Stratford. I think she was glad to meet old friends again after so long.

Tokens of our gratitude for the weekend were presented to Mr. Wills by Eileen Williams and to the other welfare staff by Blodwyn Simon, and I had the privilege of presenting a flower arrangement to Mrs. Garnett-Orme.

Then—the high-spot of the evening, of course—Gwen got up to propose the toast of St. Dunstan's. Ostentatiously, she donned a pair of large spectacles and unrolled a scroll from which she proceeded to "read" her speech. Needless to say, she told several stories in her typical Gwen-like manner and had us roaring with laughter. Nevertheless, in spite of the hilarity, the message of sincere thanks to St. Dunstan's from us came through, loud and clear, and the formal part of the evening was rounded off suitably by Beryl and Gwen who sang *Drink to Me Only*. We duly followed this advice for the rest of the evening, and I understand a number of wan faces passed through Headquarters "the morning after" on their way home.



# A Monarch's Farewell

by Raymond Vowles

During one's lifetime incidents occur which, although lasting perhaps a few minutes and seeming trivial, implant themselves in one's memory so that they are never entirely forgotten. Such an incident happened to me 40 years ago this December.

After many months of unemployment, I was pleased to receive a directive from the then Ministry of Labour instructing me to proceed to H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, where there was a vacancy for me at my trade as a fitter and turner. In the dockyard it was customary for two fitters to work together, my companion at the time being Bill Leaman, an ex-E.R.A. and a veteran of World War One. Bill was over thirty years my senior.

## H.M.S. Fury

We worked on many destroyers, cruisers etc., and, in December 1936, were detailed to go aboard H.M.S. *Fury* and make good the diesel section of the diesel-dynamo auxiliary lighting system. Unaware of events to follow, we carried on as normal, clocking out at 5 p.m. On this particular day, I had just arrived at my lodgings when a messenger called with a note instructing me to return to the ship and, if necessary, work right through the night until the job was completed. Arriving back at the dockyard, I found Bill, who had had similar instructions, waiting for me. As we approached the ship, we were surprised to see her ablaze with light and a full head of steam.

Donning our overalls, we set to once again, visited at periodic intervals by a Lieut.-Commander, the Chief E.R.A., and the Chief Stoker, enquiring how much longer we would be. Just after midnight, we were supplied with steaming hot mugs of ship's cocoa, and sandwiches as thick as the proverbial doorstep. Some hours later, the work being completed, we gave a hearty rattle on the bulkhead, a pre-arranged signal that we had now finished. Down the hatchway came the Chief E.R.A. and the Chief Stoker.

To our relief, the engine was started up with no problems. It was left running for

about half an hour, then switched off. We were complimented and then told, in no uncertain tones, to collect up our tools and get ashore as quickly as possible. Stepping on deck we were surprised to hear the sound of marching footsteps and then, forming up on each side of the gangway, was a Guard of Honour—I cannot remember if it was a Naval or Marine guard. With toolbags slung from our shoulders in approved dockyard fashion, we descended the gangway, being met at the foot by the ship's Master-at-Arms who instructed us to stay at the side of the gangway and not move until the ship had sailed.

Some ten or fifteen minutes elapsed when the guard presented arms and emerging from a large Daimler limousine stepped King Edward VIII. He wore a long grey overcoat buttoned up to the chin, and on his head a black or dark blue bowler. As he stepped on to the gangway, he turned, smiled at us, lifted his hat and said "Good morning". Bill, in true military style, stood stiffly at attention, thumbs down the crease of his overalls, and replied "Good morning, your Majesty"—whilst I, being so surprised, could only mumble some kind of greeting.

## The King Embarks

The King was piped aboard with due ceremony, and mounted the gangway. He was met at the head by various officers and I watched him disappear aft, probably to the Wardroom. Within minutes the gangway was lifted, the guard marched off and H.M.S. *Fury* slipped quietly away from the dockside and was lost from sight in the mist. Bill and I clocked out and went our separate ways home. Once home I stumbled into bed, tired and weary. I woke up some time in the afternoon and there on the kitchen table was a special edition of the local newspaper, bearing banner headlines EDWARD VIII AB-DICATES and, below, a short account of how the King, driving down to Portsmouth, had boarded the *Fury* and sailed for an undisclosed destination in France.

It was only then that I realised that I had



## A MONARCH'S FAREWELL

*continued*

witnessed an historic event. Some days later, Bill and I were invited to go aboard the *Fury* which had then returned to base, and read a letter which was pinned on the notice board on the fo'csle deck. It was addressed to the officers, ship's company and civilian workers, thanking them for the efficiency and rapidity in getting the ship ready for sea. It was signed in the former King's own handwriting "Edward P". Somebody, somewhere has that letter and I would be very interested to know of its whereabouts.

Now, at the age of 64, I may be the last civilian alive to whom King Edward VIII spoke on the morning following his abdication.

## DOMESTIC FLIGHTS— CONCESSIONARY FARES

Readers may be interested to have this reminder of air travel concessions published in the *Review* in September, 1964. British Airways allow the provision of concessionary tickets for blind passengers travelling on domestic flights within the U.K. accompanied by an escort.

Tickets can be supplied at half-price to both blind person and escort provided the blind person is travelling on business, for a medical appointment, or for an interview in connection with employment.

It is necessary to produce a certificate to show that the journey is being made for one of these purposes which must be signed by an approved authority such as St. Dunstan's.

## OVINGDEAN NOTES

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Just an minute, while we shake the rain-drops from our plastic hoods, and kick off our wellies, and we'll tell you about the recent happenings here. Incidentally one of our good resolutions, made last January 1st was to refrain from mentioning the weather in the notes; alas! we stand convicted of resolution breaking. But this year really has been quite something, weatherwise, hasn't it? And it ain't over yet!

After the delightfully exhausting Handless Reunion, we had a nice quiet week. Somehow, it left us feeling decidedly underwhelmed and longing for some excitements. Fortunately along came Col. Shoolbred and Miss Seeley with the splendid artistes they had engaged for the Not Forgotten Association concert, and we all had a highly entertaining evening. Michael Wakeham and his wife, Margaret Smith, sang romantic duets extremely well—Margaret looking very dishy in a clinging shocking pink dress (No, No! the *colour* was shocking pink). Although kept busy with concerts and appearances for the BBC, Michael also teaches singing, and has promised to bring some of his students to sing for us. We shall look forward to it. Mr. Gordon Glen's supple fingers whizzed up and down his piano-accordion to good effect, and his entertaining act received warm applause. Miss Rhoda Small then ap-

peared in a lovely emerald green chiffon gown, which quite demoralized the V.A.D. staff—we have to admit that our usual little navy-blue number lost out on the glamour-stakes. Rhoda moved among the St. Dunstaners, urging them in her lovely warm voice to Come and Gather Lilacs in the Spring, but as it was mid-October, there were no takers. (We did detect some wishful thinking here and there). Vince and Rita Starr entertained us with comedy, song and some very gifted trumpet playing. Rita was a very feminine blonde, and it was totally unexpected when she performed so well as a trumpeter. The accompanist throughout was Miss Elsie Taylor, who has been coming to Ovingdean with the Not Forgotten concert artistes for many years. She is a first-class accompanist, and a very nice person—we are always delighted to welcome her. Col. Shoolbred gave a short speech, and Ted Frearson replied, giving the artistes and the Association our warm thanks for a really happy evening.

Our last venture to the Races this year was to the Brighton Course; the rain poured relentlessly down all afternoon, and if there was any justice (which there isn't), we would all have caught pneumonia (which we didn't).

We were very sad to say goodbye to two of our V.A.D. staff—in their different



ways, Mrs. Dolly Highcock and Mrs. Dinah Lamb will be much missed by both St. Dunstaners and staff. Both of them take our good wishes with them.

Unfortunately, the weather during the Fishing Weekend was most unco-operative for the first couple of days, but our Sports Officer arranged bowling matches and other manly pursuits to occupy the intrepid fishermen, and judging by the noise and hearty laughter, it was a great success.

Entertainments in the House during the month were record programmes presented by Mr. Les Harris and V.A.D's. Mrs Exley and Miss Briant; and an excellent musical entertainment given by some new friends from Worthing—Mr. A. Barber, who played the piano, Miss J. Cowley, who had a lovely soprano voice, and a first-class bass singer. We hope that they will visit us again.

At the time of writing, Christmas arrangements are forging ahead, and we shall be delighted to welcome local St. Dunstaners, their wives, and escorts, to those entertainments to be held in the House. Those already arranged are as follows:

**Thursday December 23rd—7.30 p.m.**—Concert in the Lounge given by a local choir.

**Friday, December 24th—3.00-4.00 p.m.** "Merrily on High"—a light-hearted entertainment for Christmas presented by The Arena Players in the Winter Garden.

**7.15-9.45 p.m.**—Old Time Music Hall presented by The South Coast Entertainers and Master of Ceremonies Mr. S. Emons. Hot dogs, mince pies and a drop of good cheer will be served in the interval.

**Christmas Night—7.45 p.m.** in the Lounge—For one performance only! Commandant and Matron star in a broad comedy, "Crystal Clear".

**Monday, December 27th (Boxing Day) 8.00-11.00**—Dance in the Lounge with buffet and bar. (NOT fancy dress). Late coach to Brighton.

**New Year's Eve—8.00 p.m.-12.15 a.m.** Fancy Dress Party and Dance. Judging after Parade at 8.30 p.m. Buffet and bar. Late coach to Brighton.

**Sunday, January 2nd—7.30 p.m.** in the Winter Garden—Mr. Tom Eales presents "Stereo Mixture".

**Monday, January 3rd—8.00 p.m.**—Dance in the Lounge.

There will be NO DANCE on Monday 20th December.

And now we will creep quietly away and prepare for the festivities by stoking up on the Phyllosan and the Wincarnis.

Happy Christmas!

## THE BRITISH SKI CLUB FOR THE DISABLED

by Jimmy Wright

On 28th July I attended a meeting of the British Ski Club for the Disabled which was held at the Royal Norwegian Embassy. Quite apart from a most enjoyable evening, which included a buffet and wine, I was pleased to have an opportunity of meeting some of the members of the club and to learn something of the problems which have to be overcome as I have never taken part in snow sports. We were entertained to a showing of the film which had been produced by Thames Television, entitled *Just To Have Taken Part*, and which was televised on February 26th, in which three blind chaps took part for the first time in the first Winter Olympic Games for the Disabled in Sweden.

The three chaps depicted in the television film had learnt to ski on artificial ski slopes in this country and the competitions in Sweden were their first introduction to the real stuff, so to speak, and the fact that, although they didn't carry off any medals, they did at least finish the course, was quite something.

Between forty and fifty visually handicapped men and women throughout the U.K. belong to the Club and any St. Dunstaner, whether or not he has already taken part in snow sports, would be very welcome, I was told by both the Chairman, Mr. Hubert Sturges, who is himself Swiss trained in the art of teaching ski-ing to the disabled, and the Secretary of the Club, Mr. David Adams, who is also a skier.

Instruction and training is held during the winter season at various suitable artificial ski slopes throughout the



country, including two cross-country tracks at Aldershot and Hill End (Edinburgh). Over the years the Club has developed some expertise in arranging annual trips to ski abroad and these are organised as follows:

Beitostolen, Norway—this is normally held the last week in March (dates confirmed in January by organisers), and consists of a week's concentrated instruction in cross-country ski-ing and participation in competitive events. Accommodation is in a comfortable hotel and the cost includes full board and travel. Instruction is free, equipment hire is additional although the club is building up its own stock of cross-country equipment which is available for use by members. The cost this year (1976) was £120 (without grants).

Les Diablerets, Switzerland—ten days of down-hill ski-ing with qualified instruction at this picturesque resort in the Swiss Alps. Accommodation is in a comfortable hostel situated in the resort and the group is under the leadership of the Club's Chairman. The cost is similar to the Norwegian trip except that it is for a longer period and includes full board and travel.

The annual membership fee is £2 (from 1 October to 30 September) and any further information can be obtained from the Secretary who will be pleased to talk to any prospective member. Please write to **Mr. David Adams at 38 Mountside, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 2DP**, or telephone **01-863 5852**.

## **SPORTS ROUND-UP 1976**

**by Jock Carnochan**

1976 was a good year for St. Dunstan's sportsmen. Our Ski-ing course at Bodertal Austria, produced potential competitive skiers who, at the end of the course, competed favourably with their European counterparts. Ski-ing is becoming more and more popular with the visually handicapped, and Jimmy Wright's report gives more detail of the aims of the British Skiing Association for the Disabled.

Our ski-ing was followed by the trials at Stoke Mandeville to select the British Disabled Olympics Squad to go to

Toronto, Canada. Again St. Dunstan's sportsmen were well represented at these trials, with two of our sportsmen being selected. We can share with the other disabled members of that team the pride of being one of the best teams to have competed internationally since the inception of B.S.A.D.

Our Sea Angling expeditions started with the April four days fishing from Newhaven with eighteen anglers participating each day. Some fair catches were made in favourable weather.

### **Disastrous Weather**

The 1976 Annual Sports Weekend was disastrous from a weather point of view, the only weekend throughout the long hot summer that we had to have a rain storm. However, it proved to be a blessing in disguise as it gave us a chance to evaluate what we could do with our new indoor facilities in the Annexe. With a little bit of ingenuity, an entertaining day transpired—so much so that it was decided that another indoor meeting should take place in the winter. Unfortunately, because of lack of support, this had to be cancelled. The reason for this probably was that there were too many events taking place in such a short space of time. Constructive suggestions from our sportsmen as to the possible timing in the winter for this indoor sports event, would be welcome.

Following our sports weekend, a very enjoyable five days sea angling was enhanced by the beautiful weather with eighteen anglers taking part each day. A St. Dunstan's record was set that will take a bit of beating, a 45 pound Conger Eel caught by Daniel McGoohan.

The next event was the senior multi-disabled games at Stoke Mandeville, an event we have always taken part in with a large team. This year the games became inter-regional and, as our athletes are now scattered round in their regions, many did not attend. Of the four who did, one won the best all-round field events trophy, and one the first ever archery contest for the visually handicapped.

The last sea angling session was not so eventful due to very unsettled October weather, with gales cancelling two of the four days, and the remaining two days, being a bit choppy, provided some ground bait for the fish we didn't catch?



Finally, at the time of going to press, an entry of twelve totally blind and eight partially sighted bowlers will shortly be attending the 1976 Annual Indoor Bowls Championships.

During all the preceding events we have quietly, at least the first half of the year, been experimenting with archery, which is proving very successful and is now an added recreation for St. Dunstaners visiting Ian Fraser House, with a steady build-up of very keen archers. It is hoped that by the summer of 1977 we shall have our first St. Dunstan's archery competition.

Sport and recreation plays a very important part in the rehabilitation of the visually handicapped, and the social side of sport is as attractive as the physical.

Finally, congratulations to all St. Dunstan's sportsmen who have supported and

taken part throughout the year, not forgetting our many voluntary helpers and officials. A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.

### Provisional Sports Dates for 1977

March 5th-6th

B.S.A.D. (Stoke Mandeville) Swimming Gala.

June 4th

Metro Blind Sports Club, Open Athletics Games, East London Stadium.

June 13th-18th

National Stoke Mandeville Games.

July 24th-30th

International Stoke Mandeville Games

September 17th-18th

B.S.A.D. Senior Multi-Disabled Games. plus our own annual sports in June date to be finalised.

## CLUB NEWS

### MIDLAND

Our Annual General Meeting was held during our October meeting but, as there were no changes on the committee, this did not take long. One or two new ideas were put forward regarding dominoes in particular: we are to do away with the doubles competition and run a competition for all club attendants. This means that St. Dunstaners and their wives and escorts will go into the draw and play against each other. There have been many difficulties in the running of the doubles competition, and this should make it easier. This particular meeting was quite a good one, but we are still trying to finish the doubles competition for this year.

The tea was arranged for us by Mrs. Joan Cashmore, all home made cakes etc., once again a lovely spread, for which we all thanked her in our usual manner.

We shall be making changes in catering arrangements as from November. Instead of one of the ladies doing each meeting on her own, each lady will bring something towards the tea each month, and they will discuss between themselves just what they are to bring for each meeting.

We are all sorry to be losing another member, this time it is Laurie Rea. He and his family are moving to Manchester.

Laurie has been a good member for two or three years now, and we shall be sorry not to see him at our meetings. We all wish him and Olwyn, also their two daughters, all the very best in their new home, and we look forward to seeing them whenever they visit Birmingham in the future.

On behalf of all the Midland Club members and their wives, may I wish all St. Dunstaners wherever they may be, also all the staff, a very happy Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

**DOUG CASHMORE**  
*Secretary*

### THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

The winners of our weekly Dominoes matches during October were:

7th October	<b>1st</b>	<b>M. Sheehan</b>
	<b>2nd</b>	R. Armstrong J. Majchrowicz
14th October	<b>1st</b>	<b>M. Sheehan</b>
	<b>2nd</b>	W. Miller
21st October	<b>1st</b>	<b>J. Majchrowicz</b>
	<b>2nd</b>	R. Armstrong
28th October	<b>1st</b>	<b>J. Majchrowicz</b>
	<b>2nd</b>	C. Hancock W. Miller



# CLUB NEWS *continued*

## STEVENAGE VISIT

On Sunday, 31st October, members of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club together with wives and friends paid their second visit to Stevenage. The venue of this event was again the splendid Sports Centre of the British Aircraft Corporation. We are grateful to John Hancock, son of our St. Dunstaner Charles and Gladys Hancock, for arranging this fixture when, once again, we were the guests of Mr. C. M. Calver, the chairman of Stevenage Bridge Club.

In all, we numbered sixteen players, four of whom spent the afternoon in a friendly game of Dominoes. This left twelve players to represent St. Dunstan's at Bridge. It was decided to hold a pairs competition with the St. Dunstan's pairs playing the North-South hands. During the contest, the St. Dunstan's pairs met in friendly rivalry all the Stevenage players, with some new faces, including Ken Hancock, grandson of Charles and Gladys. About 5 o'clock, we stopped for high tea, which was a splendid buffet full of good things to please all palates.

The end of the match coincided with the opening of the Bar, and shortly after 7 o'clock we adjourned for a drink and a friendly word with the Stevenage players. Here we were again welcomed by the chairman of the Stevenage Bridge Club, Mr. C. M. Calver, and his charming wife and, after his speech, he announced the results of the contest, which were as follows:

- 1st Mr. and Mrs. H. Meleson
- 2nd Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Evans
- 3rd W. Allen and R. Armstrong

Roy Armstrong, in his reply for St. Dunstan's, said how much we had all enjoyed the day and expressed our thanks to all those who had made our visit possible.

May I say in conclusion, on behalf of all taking part from St. Dunstan's, how grateful we are to those four car drivers who made the journey possible, namely Ian Dickson, Barry Chow, Mrs. Meleson and Mrs. Sheehan.

ROBERT EVANS

## BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

The first Annual General Meeting of the Brighton Club was held at Ian Fraser House on Thursday, 7th October, 1976. The President, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, took the chair. Mr. Ted Frearson was unanimously re-elected Chairman and Mr. Bob Osborne was elected Vice-Chairman by an overwhelming majority. Mr. Kenneth Dew, the Club Treasurer was warm in his praise for the magnificent work of section committees and congratulated them all in contributing just over 50% of the running expenses by their initiative and hard work.

A resolution calling for the Club's management and finance to follow the lines of the London Club was defeated by 26 votes to 3.

Faith and praise were again given by our Banker/Treasurer on the management and financial results of a year's running.

Thanks were accorded to St. Dunstan's Headquarters and Commandant, for their support and for the use of exceptional premises and facilities. Warmest tributes were paid to wives and sighted helpers, without whom the Club would not function.

## BOWLING CLUB REPORT

The Bowling Club cups and trophies for the outdoor and indoor aggregate competitions will be presented at the Christmas Dance.

We are looking forward to a very active indoor season at Ian Fraser House. We shall be playing and entertaining our first visitors of the season, Hove & Kingsway Bowling Club, on Friday the 12th November.

There are a few people in the Brighton Area who are no longer playing bowls but have in their possession bowls which belong to the Brighton Club, we would be most grateful if these people would return them to Ian Fraser House.

TED FREARSON  
Chairman & Captain



## BRIDGE SECTION

Our ninth pairs match took place on 17th October. The winners were:

*North-South*

**T. Gaiger and H. Barker**

*East-West*

**W. Lethbridge and Mrs. R. Green**

We played our final individual on 30th October and the winners were:

**W. Burnett and F. Griffie 71**

Best Five results from a possible nine matches played are as follows:

A. Dodgson	352
R. Fullard	350
W. Lethbridge	343
J. Padley	338
F. Griffie	333
W. Phillips	331
W. Burnett	330
C. Walters	327
A. Smith	323
M. Clements	321
Miss B. Simon	319
P. McCormack	319
W. Scott	303
R. Bickley	288

On Sunday, 7th November, we were pleased to welcome once again a team of eight girls from Roedean School for a friendly game of rubber bridge. A most enjoyable afternoon.

**WALTER LETHBRIDGE**

## ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

Two dances have been held since the A.G.M., one on the 9th October and the other on the 6th November, when we were pleased to welcome Members of the Chess Club. During the evening I was pleased to introduce, with the help of our popular M.C., Mr. Alf Garstang, the St. Dunstan's Saunter. I can assure you there were several surprised faces when I called upon certain Members to take the floor as the St. Dunstan's Formation Team. At one point I thought I was at a Rugby match but in the end all went well with friends and guests joining in the fun. I must thank all the lads and lassies for being such good sports.

We now have the winners of the Sir Arthur Pearson Tournaments as follows:

## WHIST AGGREGATE

*Men*

1st	A. Dodgson	Score	661
2nd	C. Walters	"	654
3rd	W. Phillips	"	644
4th	W. Lethbridge	"	642

*Ladies*

1st	Mrs. H. Smith	Score	681
2nd	Mrs. P. Lethbridge	"	677
3rd	Mrs. B. Griffiths	"	671

## DOMINOES—FIVE'S & THREE'S

*Men*

Winner	T. Giles
Runner-up	D. Brett
Beaten	T. Mugan
Semi-finalists	J. Padley

*Ladies*

Winner	Mrs. J. Aldridge
Runner-up	Mrs. B. Griffiths
Beaten	Mrs. M. Inman
Semi-finalists	Mrs. H. Webster

## DARTS

*Men*

Winner	F. Griffie
Runner-up	W. Phillips
Beaten	B. Aldridge
Semi-finalists	W. Burnett

*Ladies*

Winner	Mrs. E. M. Dodgson
Runner-up	Mrs. C. Preedy
Beaten	Mrs. M. Brett
Semi-finalists	Mrs. J. Osborne

## CRIBBAGE

*Men*

Winner	H. Preedy
Runner-up	C. Walters
Beaten	W. Phillips
Semi-finalists	F. Griffie

*Ladies*

Winner	Mrs. J. Osborne
Runner-up	Mrs. J. Aldridge
Beaten	Mrs. M. Claydon
Semi-finalists	Mrs. M. Inman

## DOMINO AGGREGATE

*Men*

1st	T. Frearson
Equal 2nd	B. Bickley
	H. Preedy
Equal 3rd	W. Burnett
	R. Osborne

*Ladies*

1st	Mrs. E. Mudge
2nd	Mrs. C. Preedy
Equal 3rd	Mrs. B. Griffiths
	Mrs. P. Padley

**BOB OSBORNE** Chairman



## ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The next Amateur Radio Weekend at Ian Fraser House will be held on 28/30th January, 1977, and it is hoped that all members will be able to attend.

Any other St. Dunstaners interested in Radio are also most welcome.

The A.G.M. of the Society will be held during the morning of Saturday, 29th January, during the course of which the election of Officers for the coming year will take place.

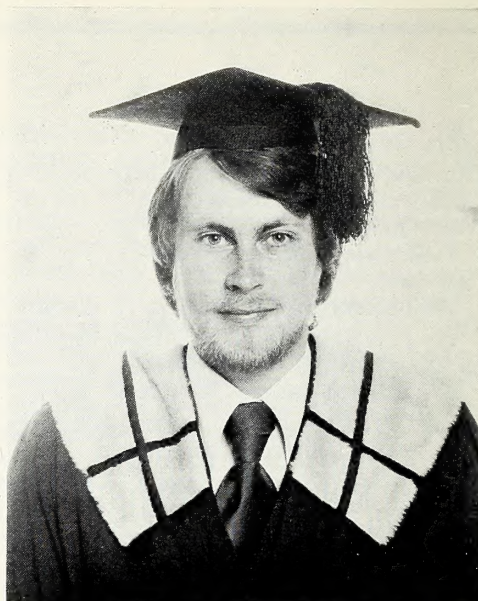
Any items for inclusion on the Agenda should be sent to Ted John (Secretary).

Will all those wishing to attend please make arrangements direct with Miss Bridger at Headquarters.

Details of the programme will be forwarded to members in due course.

## MRS. AVIS SPURWAY

Mrs. Spurway's many friends should watch out for the programme in the new series 'Family Portrait' to be televised on 2nd December at 9.50 p.m. on BBC-2.



*William, son of St. Dunstan Ernie Cookson, of Merrow, Guildford, Surrey, has graduated from the University of Sussex. He read experimental psychology and gained the B.Sc. degree second class with honours.*

## FAMILY NEWS

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### Marriage

Many congratulations to our St. Dunstaner, *William Butler Riley*, of Brighton, who was married on 9th October to Marjorie Edith Seaton. We wish them every happiness.

### Silver Wedding

We warmly congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tybinski*, of Ipswich, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 25th August.

### Grandchildren

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bradley*, of Northwood Hills, Middlesex, on the birth of their fifth grandchild, a girl, Esther May, born on 13th October to their youngest daughter, Joan, and her husband, David.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Brown* of Nun-eaton, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Eleanor Clare Nichole, born on 2nd September to their daughter, Cheryl, and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harold Earnshaw* of Tarleton, on the birth of a grandson, Mark Anthony, born on 12th August to their son Ian, and his wife, Marianne.

### Examination and Career Successes We warmly congratulate:

Christopher Franklin, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Franklin* of Edmonton, who has been made Apprentice of the Year at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield.

Ursula Tybinski, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tybinski* of Ipswich, who has passed her Higher National Diploma in Applied Biology at Leicester Polytechnic.



## Deaths

**We offer our sincere sympathy to:**

*Mr. Alfred Mead* of Rothwell, whose mother died on 12th October.

*Mr. Albert Stroud* of Crawley, whose brother, William Stroud, died on 13th May at the age of 67.

## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

### **Frederick William Brookes** *8th Devons*

Frederick William Brookes of Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, died in hospital on 3rd November, aged 78.

Mr. Brookes served as a Lance Corporal in the 8th Devons from September, 1915 and was wounded in Italy in 1918 suffering injuries which caused the loss of one eye and damage to the other but nevertheless, after his War service and prior to the failure of his remaining sight, he was actively employed with the Midlands Electricity Board until he reached retirement age. He came to St. Dunstan's in July, 1973.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Emily Brookes, a son and daughter and their families.

### **Leonard Joseph Eyre** *Sherwood Foresters and Machine Gun Corps*

Leonard Joseph Eyre of Burton-on-Trent, died on 23rd October, aged 86.

Mr. Eyre saw active service during the First World War as a Private, first with the Sherwood Foresters and then the Machine Gun Corps. He enlisted in 1916 and was wounded in Belgium after the Battle of Ypres and discharged from the Army in 1919. He worked for many years on the land as a hay-trusser, finally retiring at the age of 66. He came to St. Dunstan's in September, 1974 and was with us at Pearson House from the end of 1975 until June this year, when he returned home.

He leaves a daughter and sons.

### **Alfred Foster** *Royal Irish Fusiliers*

Alfred Foster of Clogher, Co. Tyrone, died in York City Hospital on 22nd October, aged 79.

Mr. Foster served as a Private with the Royal Irish Fusiliers from November, 1914, to October, 1918, and after losing his sight he came to St. Dunstan's in June, 1932. Having worked on the land prior to his war service, Mr. Foster chose to undertake training in poultry keeping and he later became a successful general farmer. His wife died in 1939, having suffered poor health for some

## MESSAGE FROM MRS. DELANEY

Mrs. Jimmy Delaney of Bridgwater, wishes to thank all her friends in St. Dunstan's who wrote to her and who sent floral tributes, which were of great comfort to her at this sad time.

years, and when later Mr. Foster married again, he and his family continued their farming activities despite suffering a serious setback when their house was destroyed by fire in 1947. Mr. Foster retired in 1963. Mrs. Foster's health had failed considerably and she passed away three years later. Following this, our St. Dunstaner made his permanent home with his daughter Elizabeth and her family in Clogher, but he paid frequent visits to another daughter Gladys and her family in York. It was while staying with the latter that he was taken ill and was admitted to hospital two weeks before his death.

He leaves two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Crawford and Mrs. Gladys Coleman, and their families.

### **John Halsall** *King's Liverpool Regiment*

John Halsall of Bramhall, Cheshire, died on 4th November, aged 82. He was staying at Ian Fraser House at the time.

He served as a Private with the King's Liverpool Regiment from September, 1914 until 1919. He suffered the loss of one eye as a result of mustard gas poisoning in 1918 but nevertheless was able to work as a gardener for Southport Corporation until his remaining sight failed and he came to St. Dunstan's in March, 1949. His garden and greenhouse then became his hobby occupation and with his long experience in horticulture he usually had excellent results with his tomatoes and bedding plants. Another keen interest for him was singing and he enjoyed taking some lessons to improve his voice. He also served for a time as a member of the Southport Blind Welfare Committee. In 1973 Mr. and Mrs. Halsall went to live in Bramhall with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Perry. Mrs. Halsall passed away in January, 1975. Our St. Dunstaner's death came after the onset of an illness which developed following a fall he was unfortunate enough to have shortly after going to Brighton for his autumn holiday.

He leaves two daughters, Mrs. Janet Perry and Mrs. Margaret Yates, and their families.



**Michael Hunka** *Polish Army*

Michael Hunka of Holt, Norfolk, died on 29th September, aged 70.

Mr. Hunka served as a Private in the Polish Army for more than 20 years. He was wounded in 1944 and discharged from Service shortly afterwards. He worked for many years as a gardener at the King George V Hospital, Liphook until his retirement at the age of 62 in 1968. Mr. Hunka came to St. Dunstan's in April, 1970 and he married in 1972. He and his wife settled first in Saltdean and then moved to Holt, Norfolk in October, 1975. Our St. Dunstaner enjoyed looking after his garden and greenhouse and also took an interest in woodwork.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Winifred Hunka.

**Lionel James Nuzum** *Allied Translator and Interpreter Section*

Lionel Nuzum, of Melbourne, Australia, died on the 5th February, 1976, at the age of 86.

Having previously worked at the Embassy in Japan, he was commissioned and served in the Second World War with the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section. He lost one eye in 1942 and subsequently lost the sight of his other eye and became a St. Dunstaner in Australia.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Renée Nuzum.

**Frederick W. Rodwell** *1st Herts. Regiment*

Frederick W. Rodwell of Tring, died whilst on holiday at a Brighton hotel on 12th October, at the age of 78.

He served as a Private in the 1st Herts. Regiment during the First World War and was wounded at Givenchy, subsequently being admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1930.

After a period of training, during which Mr. Rodwell successfully mastered Braille and type-writing, he acquired a guest-house from where he ran a tea-room and ultimately a club and restaurant, with the assistance of his wife, Emmie, who died in 1973. After his retirement in 1955, he continued as Managing Director of the family mineral-waters business, retaining an active interest in the company.

Mr. Rodwell was an enthusiastic cricket supporter and, in fact, was closely concerned with his local cricket club, for which he raised funds. He derived much pleasure from his talking book and radio and, despite severe arthritis, our St. Dunstaner's cheerful disposition endeared him to all members of the staff both at Headquarters and Ian Fraser House, where last August he thoroughly enjoyed his first holiday at our Home.

He leaves an only son, Mr. William F. Rodwell, a daughter-in-law, grandson and grand-daughter.

**Sidney Cyril Tarry, O.B.E.** *11th Royal Fusiliers*

Sidney Cyril Tarry died on 27th October, at Pearson House where he was spending a period of convalescence following an operation. He was approaching his 87th birthday and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1915. He and his wife celebrated their Diamond Wedding in March of this year.

Mr. Tarry served as a Sergeant in the 11th Royal Fusiliers during the First World War, and was wounded on the Somme in November, 1915.

Until 1975, Mr. Tarry was continuing with his profession as a Physiotherapist and travelling to London three days a week to attend to his patients. In earlier years, he managed to combine a part-time hospital appointment with a busy practice of his own and still found time to undertake a considerable amount of work for the community, and for blind people in particular. Until comparatively recently, he was actively engaged in a number of activities locally in the Wandsworth area of London—Pensions Committee, British Legion, Druids, Darby and Joan Club, Meals on Wheels and Labour Exchange Council. In 1950 and 1951, he was elected Alderman on Wandsworth Council and in 1964 was elected President of the local British Legion. His services to the community, and particularly the disabled, were recognised in 1953 with the award of the M.B.E. and in 1963 when he was awarded the O.B.E.

Mr. Tarry was an outstanding example of a St. Dunstaner who, despite disability, continued to lead a full, useful and active life. He regularly attended our Reunions and Physiotherapy Conferences (even though retired), and will be greatly missed by his many colleagues and friends, the staff at Headquarters and Matrons and staff of our Brighton Homes.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edith Tarry, and a son and two daughters.

**Ralph Walsh** *A.S.C.-R.A.S.C.*

Ralph Walsh of Whitefield, Manchester, died on 12th September, aged 91.

Mr. Walsh served as a Private with the A.S.C.—R.A.S.C. from 1916 until 1918. He suffered mustard gas poisoning and shell shock in 1917 but even so, after his war service he was able for many years to operate a small taxi business and he finally retired from this in 1962, when he was 78 years of age. Even though he did not enjoy the best of health, he shared a happy and contented life with his wife Lucy, who is herself blind, and their very devoted daughter, Mrs. Eileen Yeomans.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Lucy Walsh, a daughter and two sons.











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